

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 444,000 No 63,147

Biffen blames inflation rise on Chancellor

Lawson accused over 'precipitate' tax cuts

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr John Biffen yesterday blamed Mr Nigel Lawson for making "precipitate" cuts in taxation as the Chancellor came under strong attack over his admission that inflation is set to rise till the middle of next year.

Mr Biffen, a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said that rising inflation would undermine the Chancellor in his continuing argument with the Prime Minister over whether sterling should become part of the European Monetary System (EMS).

Applications of Mr Lawson's end-of-term message, Mr Neil Kinnock said that Mr Lawson was dealing to the British people a losing hand - the highest interest rates in any developed country, rising inflation and a big and growing balance of payments deficit.

The Labour leader, speaking in Exeter, said last night that none of the excuses on offer were acceptable. Interest rates were up because Mr Lawson let credit get out of

control and then handed a top rate tax gift to the rich; and of the £2 billion increase in imports only £150 million were capital imports.

Mr Biffen, interviewed on BBC Radio, said that even at the time of the Budget expansion of credit was already a big factor in the economy; and since then it had expanded further.

It was unsatisfactory for Mr Lawson to have to admit that it would touch on the argument he had been having with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, because that was why she had taken such a robust view of the unwisdom of pegging sterling.

"Clearly this is an unhappy background for the Chancellor given that there is no unanimity of view between him and the Prime Minister", Mr Biffen said.

He said that the Chancellor had been so heavily criticised to tax reductions in the Budget that when it became necessary to take short-term action against inflation he had properly chosen interest rates, and been supported by the Prime Minister.

"That does not disguise the fact that it is now clearly observed that there is a difference of view between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor as to whether sterling should be pegged into the EMS."

That argument, he said, could not be resolved to everyone's benefit but the Chancellor's ability to "prosecute his point of view" would be undermined if there was continuing inflation.

Asked if the Government

was paying the price for relaxing monetary policy, Mr Biffen said that policies had to be adjusted to changing circumstances.

He went on: "I do feel there has been a precipitate move towards very substantial tax reductions. I think credit expansion has proceeded at a rate which would not have been acceptable to the thinking that dominated the early Thatcher years."

Mr Kinnock said that Mr Lawson's claim that the current difficulties were similar to those successfully dealt with in the past was not true. Thanks to oil the present government had not had a balance of payments deficit; it had now. And the last time they tried to deal with inflation with high interest rates and a high pound they "killed a fifth of British industry, wiped out three million jobs and gave us our first ever manufactured trade deficit."

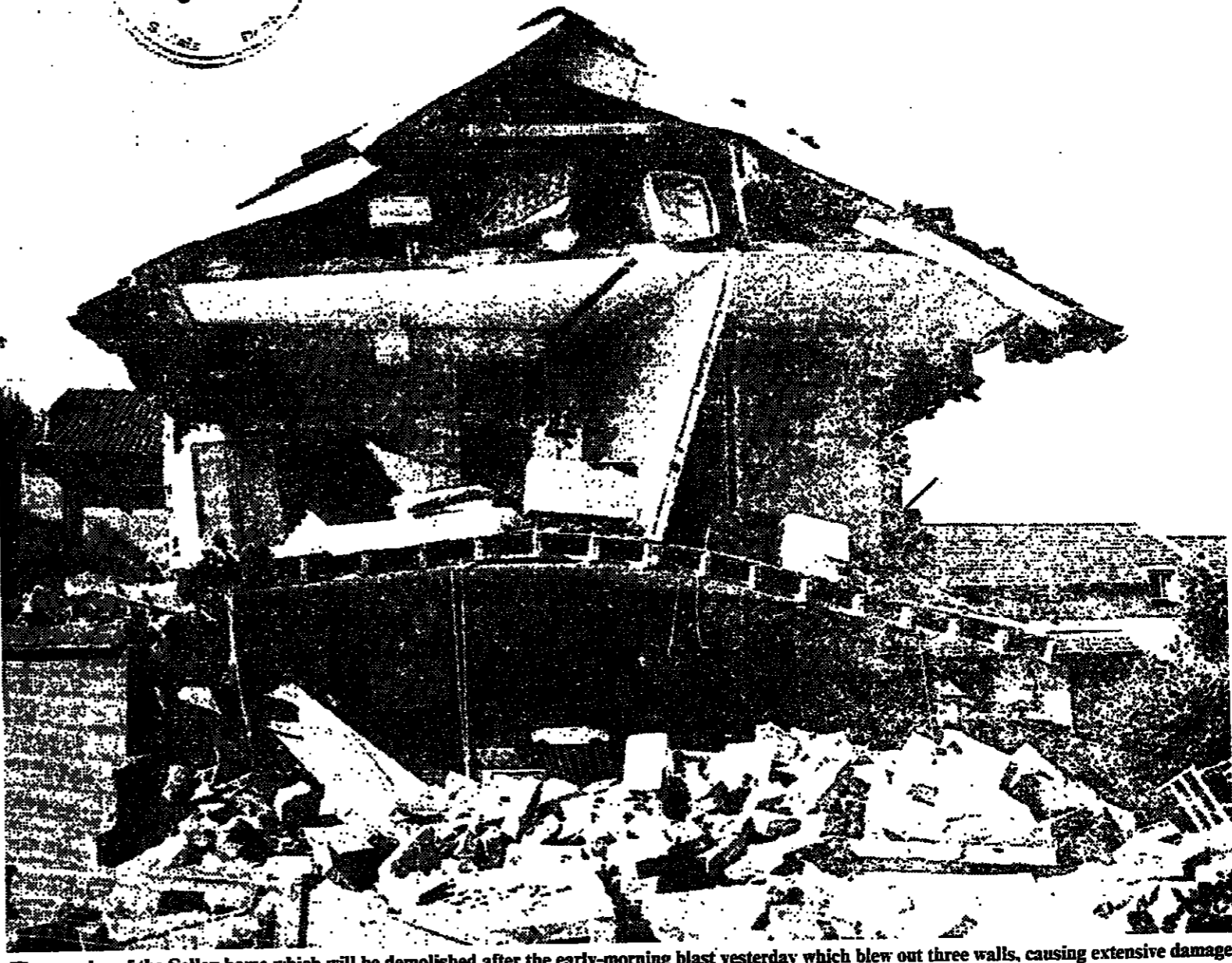
Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, said that his party's predictions during the election campaign about economic trouble lying ahead had come true.

The Prime Minister, he said, had not promised month after month of record trade deficits fuelled by a credit and consumer boom; that interest rates would be pushed so high that the cost of house-buying would be beyond low and average income families; or that inflation would take off again.

Keeping up the barrage against Mr Lawson, Mr John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, said that his letter to Conservative MPs was "a brazen exercise in economic doublethink."

Nearly all his Budget predictions had proved to be wildly wrong within only four months. A predicted deficit on the balance of payments of £4 billion for the year was now running at £1 billion for each month; inflation predicted at 4 per cent was heading for 6 per cent; and money supply figures showed an expansion of 7.7 per cent instead of a predicted increase in the 1 to 5 per cent range.

Family escapes with bruises in home blast



The remains of the Selley home which will be demolished after the early-morning blast yesterday which blew out three walls, causing extensive damage.

Shore warning that Kinnock's party leadership is on trial

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock was yesterday given an end-of-term warning from one of Labour's elder statesmen that his leadership of the party is on trial.

As the Labour leader prepares for his summer break next week after his most dismal two months since taking charge of the party, Mr Peter Shore said the feeling was not that the time had come for Mr Kinnock to stand down as leader, and make way for another candidate, but a great deal would depend on how he handled the party in the coming year.

Mr Shore, the former Cabinet minister, who stood against Mr Kinnock for the leadership in 1983, said it had been a long, exhausting and disappointing session of Parliament for Labour.

through a programme crowded with "horrors", and yet at the end of the session Labour was not ahead of the Government and Mr Kinnock had lost some of the extra support he gained during the election campaign.

Mr Shore said that Mr Kinnock's handling of the defence policy controversy had been bad for his leadership. He had provoked the debate himself with a television interview and then,



Mr Shore: Disappointing session for Labour

after the ensuing uproar, had found himself pinned more closely to "what I believe to be a very unpopular defence strategy."

Mr Shore said that, with the exception of Mr Robin Cook and his handling of the health service, Labour had not yet established a "moral and intellectual supremacy over the Government."

"It is absolutely essential that we do so. It is essential that Mr Kinnock should do so over Mrs Thatcher in whatever areas he thinks are best," he said.

Asked if Mr Kinnock was on trial in the next 12 months, Mr Shore said: "Yes. And so is the rest of the Labour Party."

Mr Shore's remarks, delivered totally without rancour, are shared by a large number of Labour MPs, although they would argue there have been other success stories as well as Mr Cook.

Most Labour MPs have little doubt that Mr Kinnock will lead them into the next

election. But their feeling is that the period up to and including the Labour Party conference will be crucial for Mr Kinnock as he battles to reassert his authority.

If he can cap the certain landslide victory over Mr Benn in the election contest with a good handling of performance at the conference, talk of any challenge to Mr Kinnock from a serious rival is likely to ebb away.

The critical period for him then will be in just under a year's time when the two-year policy review process comes to an end, and Labour finally has to grasp the nettle of presenting a new defence policy, and the one on which it will fight the next election. A disaster on this year's scale might then raise a genuine question about his leadership.

Mr Kinnock has made no attempt to play down the difficulties of recent weeks. But he has pointed out that despite them Labour's position

Children are hurled from beds

A family of five escaped with bruises yesterday when their home was blown apart, hurling the three children from their beds into the garden.

Mr Mark Selley, aged 30, his wife, Tina, aged 29, and their daughters, Vikki, aged seven, Alex, aged five, and Samantha, aged 20 months, were asleep when the explosion ripped apart their three-bedroom council house in Minehead, Somerset, at 5.45am.

Mr Selley, a self-employed plumber, who recently installed a heating system fuelled by liquid gas, said: "I don't know what caused the explosion. We haven't used the heaters all summer and the gas containers are stored outside, as they should be."

"I woke up with all the bedroom walls missing and the children were blown right out into the garden. They were lying dazed among the rubble."

"It was just as well that the house fell apart because if it had been stronger it would have contained the blast and we'd have gone up with it."

The police are investigating.

WIN £134,000 Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator. There were no winners of the daily prize yesterday, but today there is a chance to win the weekly prize of £8,000. The Portfolio Accumulator now stands at £134,000.

INSIDE Village Voice. The new road which linked the once inaccessible Himalayan village to the world brought a bus and the villagers outsmarted the outsiders. Page 8. Safety doubts. Are there holes in the new investors' compensation scheme? Family Money investigates. Pages 30-34. Getting out. Mike Gating, the former England captain, has told the selectors that he does not wish to play for England until at least next summer. Page 42. Degree results. Degrees from the University of Birmingham will be published on Monday. Glasgow results appear today. Page 37.

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Second big order for Airbus

Airbus Industrie has landed its second big order in two weeks for the Airbus A320. Canadian Airlines International announced yesterday its decision to buy 24 of the aircraft and expressed an interest in acquiring a further 17.

Last-minute veto reserved on SAS

Ministers will retain the right to veto the attendance of seven members of the SAS at the Gibraltar inquest into the deaths of three IRA terrorists until the very last minute, it emerged last night.

US planes in near miss with airliner

An investigation was launched by the Canadian aviation authorities yesterday into a near miss forcing an airliner bound from Gatwick airport to Canada with 256 passengers and crew on board to make an emergency climb to avoid colliding with two United States Air Force jets intercepting Soviet bombers above the Atlantic.

The lost landmark of Bonnie Prince Charlie

One of Scotland's most famous landmarks, the Glenfinnan monument, depicting the spot where Bonnie Prince Charlie first raised his standard in 1745, may be in the wrong place.

When you want a wine that's so light and fruity it reminds you of long summer days... Fontana Candida is the right white.

Advertisement for Fontana Candida wine. Includes a photograph of a bottle of wine with a label that says 'FONTANA CANDIDA' and '1987'. The text describes the wine as light and fruity, perfect for long summer days.

Fontana Candida The first name in Frascati

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NEWS ROUNDUP

### Covent Garden marketing move

The Royal Opera House in London is to launch a new marketing initiative this autumn to combat a further 5 per cent increase in seat prices.

The Covent Garden management is working on a booking scheme which would draw audiences to less popular operas and ballets by linking them by themes.

Work has also started on a new seat configuration in the stalls which will provide a better sight of the stage. Two new boxes are being built in the grand tier.

The Opera House has been encouraged by a fall in attendance of only 1 per cent in the last financial year despite a big increase in prices in September. It said yesterday that advance bookings for the autumn were holding up well.

Box office revenue last year climbed by £900,000 thanks to the new prices, which sent top seats from £48 to £70. The extra revenue helped cut a projected £1.2 million deficit by more than half.

### University dispute

A scientific conference which was to have been held at Hull University has been switched in protest at the treatment of a lecturer who was made redundant after refusing to take early retirement. The decision by the British Society for the Philosophy of Science to switch its annual conference, due to start on September 23, to Southampton University comes after a call by the Association of University Teachers for Hull to be ostracized by academics. Dr Peter Gibbins, secretary of the society, said it decided it would be inadvisable to hold its conference at Hull because of the dispute concerning Mr Edgar Page, aged 57, a philosophy lecturer. *Parliament, page 4*

### Skinner case dropped

The Crown Prosecution Service yesterday decided not to proceed with a case of obstruction against Mr Dennis Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolsover, after being told by Mr Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, that the charge was too trivial. Mr Skinner, dubbed the Beast of Bolsover, was arrested for allegedly obstructing the highway when he attended a picket in support of more than 200 technicians who have been dismissed by TV-am. He said he would be returning to the picket line.

### Poison pens outlawed

Sending poison-pen letters became an offence yesterday when a private member's Bill received the Royal Assent. The Bill also covers putting offensive material such as broken glass through letter boxes. The Malicious Communications Act was introduced by Mr Andrew Stewart, Conservative MP for Sherwood. Causing distress or anxiety does not have to be proved under the Act as the new offence would be committed at the point of dispatch, and the Act covers any form of sending or delivery. The maximum penalty will be a fine of £1,000.

### Lyceum still a theatre

Brent-Walker, the leisure and property group whose purchase of the closed Lyceum Theatre from the London Residuary Body dismayed the theatre world last month, yesterday said it intended to restore it as a theatre. Rather than turn the theatre into a cabaret restaurant based on the model of the Paris Lido, as the residuary body had indicated, Brent-Walker wants to spend £7 million restoring it as a drama venue. Brent-Walker's lease on the building is being contested in court by the present leaseholders, Mecca. The freehold belongs to the Theatre Trust.

### Shipyard deadlock

Shop stewards representing 13,000 striking shipyard workers at the VSEL yard in Barrow, Cumbria, yesterday rejected proposals agreed by their union's national officers and the company to end the eight-week dispute. The men walked out over plans to reintroduce a fixed summer holiday period. The stewards were told that each worker had been offered £200 to end their flexible holiday plus five days extra pay each, in return for phasing in a fixed fortnight from 1990. The strike leader, Mr Frank Ward, said there would be more talks with the management on Monday.

### Home buyers start gazumping with removals

Wayne's Removals said many people had been turned away. "We have had some problems of customers caught in a chain of house deals that breaks down because one link is gazumped. That means we are left with an empty van", a company official said.

Other companies reported house buyers so desperate to move they were offering far above the going rate. Estate agents confirmed a sharp rise in business, particularly from first-time buyers. The surge pushed up prices of properties under £100,000, where demand was especially fierce, by around 20 per cent.

Competition led to a battle of the cheque books as young couples fought to secure their first home.

Prudential Property Services said the rush had come at a bad time. The summer holidays was when many families normally moved. The tax changes had added to the pressure on removal firms.

The Woolwich reported yesterday that joint mortgage holders had represented more than 41 per cent of the society's offers in June.

Of those 11 per cent were engaged couples, 15.9 per cent co-habitees, 9.1 per cent friends, 4.8 per cent family and 0.4 per cent "others".

## Baker calls education Act 'an historic moment'

By Douglas Broom Education Reporter

The Government's mammoth Education Reform Bill received the Royal Assent yesterday, ushering in the most radical shake-up in English and Welsh education since the Second World War.

Its panoply of powers stretches from the admission of toddlers to primary schools to the employment rights of senior university professors. Almost every aspect of education will be touched by its influence.

Describing the Bill's passage into law, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Education Secretary, could not resist a pun on its new name - the Education Reform Act. "It is the beginning of a new ERA", he said.

It was an historic moment in the history of education, he added. "The Education Reform Act will transform education in this country. It

will mean more choice for parents, better management and higher standards.

"Parents will begin to see benefits from the Government's reforms over the next couple of years. Improvements will continue throughout the 1990s as the Act's provisions take full effect.

"Next term parents should stand as governors, vote in parent governor elections and see that their voice is heard. Parents, teachers, employers and local education authorities all have a crucial part to play in raising standards and ensuring that our much-needed reforms benefit all the nation's children."

As he was speaking it was confirmed that parents in Manchester had already begun moves to take advantage of one of the new Act's key "parent power" provisions.

More than 20 per cent of parents at Audenshaw Boys High School,

Thameside, petitioned governors for a ballot on pulling the school out of local authority control under the new Act.

On Thursday the newly formed Grant Maintained Schools Trust predicted that within two years 100 schools would have used the Act to opt out.

At the heart of the Act is the proposal for a national curriculum for all state schools to be followed by every pupil aged 5 to 16.

Like most of the main planks of the reform package the curriculum emerged virtually unscathed from the 370 hours of parliamentary debate devoted to the Bill's 238 clauses and 13 schedules.

Under the new curriculum pupils will study 10 subjects - the "core subjects" of English, maths and science together with the "foundation subjects" of history, geography, technology, a foreign language,

music, art and physical education. They will be tested to meet attainment targets at the ages of seven, 11, 14 and 16, with parents receiving reports, and overall results being published to allow comparisons between schools.

The Act will widen parental choice by creating two new types of schools. Existing state schools will be able to opt out of local authority control to become grant-maintained, funded directly by Whitehall.

City technology colleges, backed by private enterprise, will offer a science and technology-orientated education to pupils aged between 11 and 18 in the inner cities. There are also plans for a hybrid CTC where pupils would study the technology of showbusiness and the performing arts.

Schools will also have to admit pupils up to their physical capacity,

based on a "standard number" of pupils set by the Government.

And school governors will get financial control of their schools with powers extending to the appointment and dismissal of teachers and other staff. The same rights will be given to further education college governors.

Religious education and school assemblies will in future have to have predominantly Christian character although pupils from other religions will be allowed their own acts of worship.

The Act also provides for the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority and the transfer of its powers to the 13 inner London boroughs from April 1990.

Those university dons with "tenure" will lose its protection and all academics will be liable to be made redundant for the first time.

*GCSE watchdog, page 4*

## Government refutes any neglect of Nato duties

By David Walker and Kerry Gill

The Government yesterday firmly dismissed public anxieties about the strength of the Royal Navy's fleet of frigates and destroyers in meeting Nato commitments while maintaining a temporary presence in the Persian Gulf protecting oil tankers.

Its response to a critical report by the Conservative-dominated House of Commons Defence Committee was robust. "The Government has not neglected and has no intention of neglecting the Royal Navy's surface fleet. It is the second most powerful surface force within Nato."

However, between the lines of the report, the Ministry of Defence let it be known that the deliberate diminution of the fleet (excluding submarines, aircraft carriers and smaller ships) has now come to an end, and that it is now committed to a building programme for new frigates and destroyers for the escort fleet that comes very close to the figure of three new orders a year envisaged by the MPs.

The MoD indicated yesterday that the official target of a 50-vessel escort fleet would not be met by prolonging the service life of older ships but by an active policy of ordering new vessels. The recent decision to order three new Type 23 frigates goes even further than the Defence Committee wanted, officials

pointed out. These ships cost between £100 million and £150 million each.

Although the ministry is reluctant to be pinned down to a specific annual target for new ships, it is now officially accepted that "between two and three" new vessels will need to be commissioned each year into the 1990s in order to maintain the fleet's size. Of the 50-vessel fleet between 40 and 43 are available for action at any one time.

In its response the Government confirmed that the Armilla patrol on duty in the Persian Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war had put the Royal Navy under some strain. The fleet's basic posture was its Nato commitment of securing the North Sea against a Soviet breakout, with some spare capacity to assist transatlantic convoys.

Meanwhile, the ministry confirmed last night that they are investigating a deliberate attempt to sabotage engines in Royal Navy submarines. The submarine, the Oberon-class Ocelot, has been undergoing a refit at the Rosyth naval dockyard on the Forth.

Contractors called in the MoD after, it is believed, metal washers were discovered in the Ocelot's engines. Damage is believed to amount to several hundred thousand pounds, although work has now restarted.

## Busy tour for Thatcher



The Prime Minister flew off yesterday on what promises to be the most gruelling and hectic tour she has undertaken. Her 10-day journey will take in nearly 27,000 miles, cutting through 18 time zones, visiting 12 cities and landing in seven countries.

The main purpose is to celebrate Australia's bicentenary. She will spend five days there visiting all the major cities. But her tour will also take her to Oman, Bahrain, Malaysia,

Thailand, Singapore, and a seventh country not yet named.

Apart from conferences and summits, this is her first major trip since she visited Kenya and Nigeria in January. It will be followed by a visit to Poland in October.

The following month she will fly to Washington DC to say her farewells to President Reagan and meet the President-elect for the first time since the United States elections.

## Former minister wins top EEC job

By Philip Webster Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Bruce Millan, the former Labour Secretary of State for Scotland, was named yesterday as Britain's second Commissioner to the European Community.

Mr Millan, aged 60, the MP for Glasgow, Govan, will replace Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, the former Labour minister, whose appointment was not renewed by the Prime Minister in spite of appeals from Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader.

Mr Millan's appointment, which will mean a by-election in a constituency where Labour had a 90 per cent majority at the last election, comes after discussions earlier this week between Mr Thatcher and Mr Kinnock. Mr Millan was said yesterday to have been Mr Kinnock's "strong recommendation".

The new commission of 17 members takes up office in Brussels. Mr Leon Brittan, the former Conservative Home Secretary, has already been appointed Britain's senior Commissioner.

Mr Millan was the Scottish secretary from 1976 until 1979. He had served previously as a junior minister in the Ministry of Defence and the Scottish Office.

He said yesterday that his aim would be to "provide prosperity and justice for all its citizens".

## Lambeth Conference Compromise over women welcomed

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

Both supporters and opponents of women's ordination at the Lambeth Conference in Canterbury have thrown their weight behind a compromise formula concerning the consecration of women bishops, it emerged yesterday.

In effect the crucial questions would pass to a special commission of the Anglican Communion, which would report back to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, possibly some time next year. He is understood to support the idea, although it could eventually put him in a very difficult position.

Two key resolutions to be debated on Monday were published yesterday. The first has the backing of the Mission and Ministry section of the conference, including the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard.

The second, which Dr Leonard also supports, is a private member's motion tabled by the Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Donald Robinson, which urges all provinces of the Anglican Communion

"to refrain from consecrating a woman as bishop".

The 300 bishops at Canterbury also had their first opportunity to see the resolutions concerning future relations with the Roman Catholic Church.

The groups which have been studying this are recommending that the conference should endorse two agreed doctrinal reports, on the eucharist and the priesthood. Their resolution also supports the direction taken so far in the study of the "universal primacy" - including the papacy - by the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission.

It is clear a great deal of hard negotiation, together with a growing sense of friendship and mutual respect between the participants, has gone into the wording of the official resolution on women bishops, in which leading roles were played by Dr Leonard himself and the American presiding bishop, the Rt Rev Edmund Browning.

It is the stated intention of the

American Anglican church to allow a woman to be consecrated as a bishop some time after this conference ends.

The official resolution for Monday is in five parts. It declares that each province should "respect" the decisions and attitudes of other provinces, whether or not they have women bishops.

It asks bishops to remain on good terms to ensure continuing open dialogue and it calls for a commission to be set up to examine relationships between provinces with women bishops and those without. This would advise the Archbishop of Canterbury on maintaining full communion with both types of province.

The draft resolution for Monday's conference ends by recognizing the "serious hurt" to some in the church which would result from the consecration of women bishops.

A request is thought to have been made to the Archbishop of Canterbury for a secret ballot of the bishops on Monday.

## Challenge to Dublin deal fails

By Peter Davenport

Two brothers from Northern Ireland who tried to overturn the Anglo-Irish agreement by proving it was against the constitution of the Republic had their case rejected by a judge yesterday.

Mr Michael McGimpsey, aged 40, and his brother Christopher, aged 36, both directors of a family building business, had brought the case before the High Court in Dublin. They are members of the executive committee of the Unionist Party.

Mr Justice Donal Barrington, in a reserved judgment that took an hour to read in court, said that parts of the case fell more in the jurisdiction of the courts but that the agreement did not breach the Constitution.

The brothers might appeal.

● Detectives in Belfast were yesterday still questioning a man aged 29 escorted back to the province on Tuesday after being arrested by metropolitan police officers at Rochester Row police station, south-west London.

## Captain accepts grounding

By Michael Horsnell

Captain Brian Walpole, British Airways' senior Concorde pilot, has accepted he will never fly the aircraft again after an incident in which he broke safety rules.

He agreed to a permanent desk job until his retirement at the end of this year after admitting that he infringed regulations on fuel levels.

The grounding comes after an incident in May when Concorde developed a hydraulic fault midway across the Atlantic which required it to reduce to subsonic speed and so use more fuel than normal.

The captain could have diverted to Shannon airport in Ireland but chose instead to fly on to Heathrow. Air traffic control there was asked to give priority landing to the airliner which was subsequently found to have only 25 minutes worth of fuel left - five minutes less than the half-hour safety limit.

The airline emphasized that none of the 49 passengers was in any danger.

Yesterday Capt Walpole, who was awarded an OBE this year, refused to comment on the grounding which BA said was a sad end to his career. He joined his wife on Wednesday in the United States where she is visiting friends.

Capt Walpole - who piloted Concorde on its inaugural supersonic flight for BA to New York in 1977 - will now concentrate on his desk job as general manager of the airline's Concorde division until he retires on his 55th birthday in December.

## High hopes for busiest weekend

By Tim Perry and Boris Johnson

Airport authorities were cautiously optimistic yesterday that holiday flights would run to schedule during what is traditionally the busiest weekend of the year.

Aberdeen: The four charter flights left on time.

Birmingham: Flights to Mahon and Pula left 90 minutes late and a departure to Ibiza was delayed by 50 minutes.

Bristol: A Panamanian flight to Minorca was nearly two hours late leaving; a Zante departure left 4 1/2 hours late at 10pm.

Getwick: A Virgin Atlantic flight to Newark, New Jersey

was delayed by 20 hours due to technical problems from the day before.

The departure of a Gibraltar flight to Gibraltar was delayed for 90 minutes while an Air Tours flight to Barcelona waited 2 1/2 hours to take off.

Heathrow: No significant delays.

Liverpool: A flight from Ypsolavia was 50 minutes late.

Leeds: A few minor delays were cleared within an hour.

Manchester: Air Europe flight to Tenerife and Lanzarote were delayed by one hour 50 minutes and 55 minutes respectively. A Danair flight to Ibiza was held for one hour before take off, while a Calsair flight to Faro was delayed by one hour 45 minutes.

Other flights were held from Dalaman, Turkey. A British Caledonian flight from Malta was two hours late.

Newcastle: No delays.

Sheffield: No delays.

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# Parents jailed over 'unspeakably vile' child sex abuse ring

A mother, her former husband and two other men were jailed for between three and 10 years yesterday after a series of rapes and indecent assaults on their children.

The woman, aged 46, who pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting the rape of her daughter, aged four, by holding her down while she was assaulted by her father, was jailed for three years.

The father, aged 40, who was found guilty of raping his daughter and the buggery of his son, aged three, was jailed for 10 years. The maximum sentence for rape is life.

A man, aged 43, was jailed for five years after being found guilty of indecently assaulting his daughter, aged five, his son, aged nine, and his neighbour's sons, aged five and seven.

The neighbour, aged 48, was jailed for seven years after being found guilty of the attempted buggery of his younger son and the buggery of his other son. A six-month suspended sentence for child cruelty imposed at Knutsford Crown Court, Cheshire, last year was enforced consecutively.

Mr Justice Allott told Chester Crown Court that he must impose deterrent sentences because of apparent widespread sex abuse of children.

He said: "Your conduct to any normal parent is unspeakably vile, and yet so we are held to believe it is widespread. It seems incumbent on me to pass deterrent sentences, but I must not be moved

By Ian Smith

by abhorrence to get the sentences out of proportion." He said they had been found guilty of specimen charges only but his sentencing had to reflect their overall criminality. The men had denied all the charges.

The judge said that the identities of the four accused were being kept secret for their children. However, this would not prevent fellow prison inmates from learning quickly of the crimes.

He said they could select either solitary confinement or face the daily risk of attack from other inmates.

The sentencing came after two separate trials in the past month, which was the culmination of a six-week joint undercover investigation by the police and social workers at Congleton, Cheshire.

Initially, 19 parents were taken into custody and 17 children into care. All but four parents were subsequently released. Those children not considered at risk were allowed home within 24 hours. Ten children had since been made wards of court.

The court had been told that the man convicted of raping his daughter had been convicted previously of cruelty after shaking his daughter, aged 11 months, from a previous marriage, so violently that her arm was broken. He also had a conviction for luring a girl, aged five, into his home and attempting to behave indecently, the court was told.

Miss Sarah Leigh, for the

prosecution, said the woman was ill with remorse and depression after being corrupted by her former husband. She had instigated the police and social services operation by voluntarily placing her children in care and explaining fully the reasons behind their removal from home.

Mr David Poole, QC, for the defence, said the woman had been terrorized by the malign influence of her former husband. She had lost three stone in weight since having the children placed in care.

He said: "Her life is dominated by feelings of disgust with herself and everything she is. Whatever sentence your lordship imposes, she can hardly sink lower."

Mr Justice Allott commended Det Chief Inspector David Jones and his team of 95 police officers who had worked alongside 50 social workers to investigate the child sex abuse allegations.

He said: "Whatever might happen elsewhere it is evidence that in Cheshire there is the highest co-operation between the police and social workers".

Mr Jones said later that the cases of child abuse in Congleton were the worst he had uncovered. Inquiries were continuing, although it was believed that fears of a child pornography ring operated by parents were groundless.

He said that the abused children, who were in the care of social workers, were receiving special counselling.

# Athletes wait for flying start



Yogic flyers practising for their world championships held at Skelmersdale, today (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

By Ian Smith

Starting blocks and spikes, even running shorts and vests, are thought passé by contestants in the world's most unusual sporting competition which begins today.

Curious spectators will watch "mind athletes" vying for honours in 50 metre races, 25 metre hurdles, high jump and long jump when the Third Annual Yogic Flying Competition proves the ultimate test of mind over matter.

The name of the venue gives away the game. Yogic flying contestants will

gather in the new Maharishi Golden Dome of the Age of Enlightenment in Skelmersdale, Lancashire.

Throughout the day competitors from as far afield as the United States, Canada, Denmark, Germany and Central America will squat motionless inside the specially-built dome awaiting the spectacular moment of maximum brainwave coherence.

When it arrives their bodies will unexplainably rise as high as 27ins in the air for as long as three or four seconds,

for a moment apparently defying gravity.

Why Skelmersdale for such an unearthly event? Expediency and practicality.

To establish headquarters for an eventual 3,000 people dedicated to international peace, homes and jobs and a central location are needed.

Skelmersdale, a new town, offers it all; new industry providing jobs, developers building homes throughout the burgeoning region and motorways.

# Man jailed for shooting after robbery

A man was jailed for a total of 21 years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for gunning down a passing driver who captured him as he fled from an armed robbery.

Armed police surrounded the court as John Kendall, aged 37, described by the judge as a "determined and dangerous man" was sentenced.

Kendall, aged 37, of Kings Court, Plaistow, east London, shot Mr Barry Smith three times at point-blank range, narrowly missing his heart, after robbing a Securicor van of £35,000.

Mr Smith, aged 44, from Welling, south-east London, a gas board official who is also a Territorial Army Marine sergeant, managed to overpower and arrest Kendall.

Mr Smith is to be recommended by Scotland Yard for the George Cross, the highest civilian bravery award.

He and another motorist who gave chase, Mr Donald Bamford, aged 46, a silversmith, have been awarded £250 for their bravery. Mr Smith said afterwards:

"I did not even know I had been wounded at the time".

Kendall was on the run from an eight-year sentence for burglary when he took part in the raid in Kensal Rise, north-west London.

He and an accomplice who had escaped with him from a prison van 18 months earlier threatened guards delivering to Barclays Bank, snatched cash and traveller's cheques and escaped on a motor cycle.

Mr Bamford crashed into the motor cycle and Mr Smith drove at Kendall and knocked him down as he ran off.

In evidence Mr Smith told the court: "Kendall walked towards me with a cash bag in one hand and a pistol in the other. I made my mind up to run him over and accelerated."

"I hit him and he rolled on to the bonnet and over the windscreen and fell to the ground. I got out and we started fighting."

"I thought it was a cap gun he had. I

told him "No way you bastard, you don't frighten me" when he poked the gun into my chest and pulled the trigger.

"I didn't feel a thing and was still convinced it was a toy gun. I started to choke him and took the gun off him."

"By that time I had been shot three times, although I didn't know it."

Mr Smith added: "He pretended to surrender but then made a grab for a second gun which his accomplice had dropped. I tightened my grip on him and he said 'OK, I'm nicked, I give up'."

"The police arrived and I handed him over."

Yesterday Kendall admitted escaping custody, robbery, possession of a firearm and making use of it to resist arrest. He was jailed for 15 years for the robbery, six years for the firearms offence, to run concurrently, and a further six years for the "callous and deliberate assault on Mr Smith", to run consecutively.

Judge Lybery also jailed him for two years, to run concurrently, for the escape.

# Rude sign cost man his life

A driver was jailed for five years yesterday for mowing down and killing a hitchhiker who made an obscene gesture at him.

Roger Dalley, aged 19, mounted the pavement and rammed his van into Clifford James, a Royal Navy seaman, aged 19, at nearly 50 miles an hour.

Dalley, his father Robert Dalley and his brother John Dalley, all of Rowde, Wiltshire, started cutting up the vehicle a day later in an attempt to hide the evidence. But when Able Seaman Clifford died days later, Robert Dalley, aged 54, rang the police and confessed.

Roger Dalley, a furniture fitter, was yesterday sentenced to a total of five years youth custody after pleading guilty to manslaughter and attempt-

ing to pervert the course of justice.

John Dalley, a labourer, aged 21, and Robert Dalley, a builder, aged 54, were each sentenced to one year in jail suspended for two years after admitting attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Passing sentence at Bristol Crown Court, Mr Justice Gatehouse told Roger Dalley that what he had done was "appalling".

"You had not the self-control although you were driving along the road to ignore the stupid and probably drunken abuse and gestures", he said.

The court heard earlier that Able Seaman Clifford, and two friends were hitching home in Chippenham, Wilts, after playing skittles. They made obscene gestures at motorists who refused to give

them lifts, but when the Dalley brothers drove past the two groups hurled abuse at each other.

Christopher Leigh, prosecuting, said Dalley turned the van around and mounted the pavement. Then he drove "at an increasing speed" behind the sailor and his friends. He ploughed straight into Able Seaman Clifford as the others scrambled clear.

The Dalley brothers and their father later cut up the van with a blow torch and tried to hide the pieces behind their garden shed.

Roger Dalley told police: "The only reason I drove towards them was that I tried to frighten them by making them jump. They were sticking their fingers up and waving - you know, come on and have a go."

# Escapee who raped gets seven year term

A teenager who battered and raped a woman and burgled her home after he escaped from detention was sentenced to seven years' youth custody yesterday.

Mr Justice Roughter rejected a defence request for an adjournment for medical reports saying: "I don't think that any cosy chats with psychiatrists are called for."

Gary Thompson, aged 19, of Rutherford Rise, Coulsdon, Surrey, exchanged his detainee's garb for her husband's clothes, the Central Criminal Court, central London, was told.

Thompson was on the run from a detention centre when he arrived in Streatham, south London, in March this year.

He watched as the woman, aged 39, left home to take her children to school and broke in. Mr Brian Barker, for the prosecution, said:

"He battered her repeatedly on the head with his fists and tried to smother her with a pillow, the court was told.

He barricaded her into a cupboard under the stairs and fled with cash, a video recorder and other goods in the family car.

Thompson admitted raping the woman twice, causing her actual bodily harm, falsely imprisoning her, burglary and taking her car.

Jason Jenkinson, aged 16, of Deodar Road, Blackley, Manchester, was sentenced to be detained for four years yesterday at Manchester Crown Court, after he admitted aggravated burglary and raping a nanny at the house where she worked.

The court was told that Jenkinson's parents had questioned him three days after the rape because he was crying and upset. They took him to police.

# Killing charge

A youth aged 16 was yesterday remanded in custody for seven days by a special court in Grimsby, charged with the murder of Sharon Standley, aged 14. Her body was found in a playing field near her home in Scarbro on Monday.

# False claim

A farmer who lied to obtain a Common Market sheep subsidy was fined £500 by magistrates in Newtown, Powys yesterday. The court was told that Iorwerth Gittins, aged 62, of Brooks, Welshpool was also likely to have a £4,000 subsidy cancelled by the Ministry of Agriculture.

# F number plates 'to set record'

By Rodney Cowton  
Transport Correspondent

The motor industry faces its most frantic sales period ever, beginning on Monday, when the new "F" registration for car number plates comes into force.

August's sales are expected to pass comfortably the monthly record of 407,000, set in August last year when registrations exceeded 400,000 for the first time.

Between 420,000 and 450,000 registrations are expected, worth up to £3 billion, as car-owners stampede to acquire the status symbol of having a new "F" registration plate at the earliest moment.

August's sales far exceed those of any other month, and will probably turn out at more than 20 per cent of the total annual sales, which are expected by the trade to be 2.1-2.2 million.

The August figure may prove to be not far short of 10 times as great as that for this month, because motorists have been holding back to get the "F" plates.

Ford car prices are to go up by an average of 2.6 per cent from August 15, the company announced today. Examples of new prices include Fiesta 1.1L £5,114 compared with £5,010; Sierra 1.6L £6,999 (£6,826).

# £1m game to help the NHS

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A game is to be launched this autumn which could raise up to £1.5 billion a year for charities and the National Health Service.

The gambling game, another contender in the NHS lottery race, is expected "regularly" to pay out prize money of more than £1 million. The organizers, still unnamed, have dubbed the game *Lotso* and claim that there could be 250 new British millionaires by this time next year.

The advertising agency J Walter Thompson is being paid £6 million to market the scheme, which will be directed at 17 million households.

"Lotso promises to create a new millionaire every working day of the year and to raise up to £1.5 billion for the benefit

of the NHS and related charities", the agency says.

Yesterday, Mr Bill Wallace, the account director and senior associate director of JWT, refused to give details of either the game or the client, both to be announced on October 1.

However, he said that the organizers had set up the project purely as a business venture and had no direct links with either the NHS or charities.

A percentage of the money raised by the scheme will be allocated to one-off projects and trustees of the new fund will decide regularly how the money should be spent.

Mr Wallace said there was no guarantee that the cash would go to the NHS but the clients intention was to direct

resources to charities and the health service.

"The trust will give a certain amount to allow a series of operations to be carried out from a waiting list or to build a new hospital", Mr Wallace said.

Money could also be used to back British projects such as the £6 billion Hotel spacecraft.

Mr Wallace explained that the new game would get round the difficulties facing the NHS lottery, set up by Loto Ltd, which was withdrawn on the eve of its launch earlier this summer because it involved an element of skill.

Loto Ltd is still hoping to launch its lottery, which aims to raise £50 million a year for the NHS.

# 'Hate mail' store manager jailed

The manager of a Marks & Spencer store who deluged an attractive female colleague with obscene hate mail for more than four years was jailed for 12 months at Chester Crown Court yesterday.

Gerald Lee, aged 47, of St Ann's Road North, Cheadle, Greater Manchester, sent the woman letters containing razor blades, sent her name and address to contact and sex magazines and she was in-

undated with replies, and attacked her car causing nearly £500-worth of damage.

Former topless model Stefanie Marrian, aged 37, escaped going to jail for pestering her former lover after promising to behave.

In the High Court yesterday Mr Justice Drake said he would take a lenient course and make an order jailing her for 28 days for breach of an order restraining her from

repeatedly telephoning her ex-boy friend, but suspend it until trial or further order.

A woman who was obsessed by her bank manager is going to have to wait to be sentenced for assaulting his pregnant wife.

Liverpool Crown Court yesterday adjourned the case of Margaret Gibbons, aged 43, of Kings Mount, Oxtou, Birkenhead, Merseyside, for psychiatric reports.

# Chinese learn ways of Western crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Chinese are worried that they are about to catch the British disease of football hooliganism and other Western crime and have called in British experts to help.

Chinese football supporters have already thrown cushions on to the pitch in protest at their team losing, according to Mr Bill Tuppen, director of Exeter University's centre for police studies. Matches often draw crowds of up to 80,000.

Now the Chinese want to know what police officers and club officials in Britain have to contend with, how to keep crowds apart and how to prevent rival groups clashing in the street.

Mr Tuppen has just returned from a two-week, 6,000-mile lecture tour of China with Mr John Allerson, former Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, and Dr Lee Johnson, research fellow at

the centre. They were invited by the Chinese Ministry of Public Security, which wants to tap Western expertise on the sort of crime they expect to arrive in China with greater affluence and freedom.

The Chinese want to know how to combat drugs, terrorism and international fraud.

Mr Allerson said: "They do anticipate a drug problem. They do not have one yet, but they are sitting next to the 'Golden Triangle' and it may come with greater affluence as kids can afford drugs."

The Chinese are also faced with the Western dilemma of how to balance freedom and order within the law.

Mr Allerson said: "They are an orderly society, but with more freedom to protest they want to know how to tolerate it without losing what they have suffered

so much to build". Mr Tuppen said: "Because there is more private property, there is more to be stolen and theft figures have risen."

"In Peking, the biggest crime is bicycle thefts and they were interested in crime prevention schemes such as marking property."

Yet the humble bicycle thief is likely to be jailed for five years, and many offences carry the death penalty.

The fight against Chinese crime is carried on with the aid of local police and public security committees, through which communities police themselves, which communities police themselves, which communities police themselves.

However, the Chinese have more than a million police, all of the same rank, and they now want to know about command structures, pay and administration.

The Chinese crime rate is said to be much lower than Britain's and their detection rate to be twice as good.

JULIUS CAESAR: 1952. 'HAMLET: 1934.

# SUNDAY. THE SUM OF THE PARTS.

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED: 1981.

'THE SHOES OF THE FISHERMAN': 1968.

ARTHUR: 1981.

'KING LEAR': 1955.

I'm ashamed that I haven't anything more to offer really than just being an actor. A revealing comment from the century's greatest Shakespearean actor. Sir John Gielgud tells more tomorrow night on Channel 4.

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# Charmed life of the drug dealing Oxford rogue

*For Howard Marks, the road to international criminal notoriety began in Oxford in the mid-Sixties. Now, London talks to some of the people who succumbed then to the roguish charm that went wrong.*

Nobody called him Dennis. His friends knew that name only when it was read aloud in court, followed by a list of charges; or when he was named on news bulletins, as he was this week, and filmed with handcuffs stepping out of a police vehicle. To those who knew him he was always Howard.

His name came up regularly at lunches and dinners. If you knew the members of a certain set in London — quite well placed, just off the centre of power, a set dominated by Oxford and Sussex graduates, many of them academics, many in the media and none a shining success — you would often hear the name of Howard Marks.

"Have you heard what Howard is up to now?" they would say, with the wry smile which goes with the latest venture of Jack the Lad — and it might have been Howard's idea of selling bottled Welsh water in Gulf States, or his ownership of a massage parlour and brothel in the Far East. Among those who had stayed in London for the sake of the children, in the hope of promotion, for love of a Neff cooker, Howard's name rang down the decades with the charm of youth and adventure, with licence, liberty, indulgence, wealth and wantonness.

"I've known him since 1963 or '64," said a man, "and I can't think of any occasion in the last 25 years when I didn't feel better for having seen Howard

Howard Marks (right), the Englishman arrested in Majorca five days ago as a massive international drugs ring, in on moved under armed guard to a top security jail in Madrid early yesterday (Howard Foster writes).

The secret transfer angered Marks' legal representatives, who were not told of his departure from Palma until he was about to be put on board a ship bound first for Barcelona.

Police in Majorca were last night trying to break codes on two sophisticated pocket computers seized at his home. The computers may hold details of Marks' organization, including telephone numbers of couriers and inter-

national contacts and, more importantly, the whereabouts of the millions of dollars that his gang are said to have made more than a decade.

Spanish police also said that a second house belonging to Marks had been found in Palma Nova. It had been let out to a group of homosexuals who held wild parties there, officers said.

After arriving in Barcelona, Marks and a co-defendant, William Reeves, an American, were expected to be flown to Madrid before being taken to the high security Alcazarras prison.

Mrs Judith Marks and Geoffrey Kenyon are still being held in Palma prison. Marks' solicitor, Mr Michael

read physics. Though not "hip" he was accepted by those who were. They took him in. He charmed them. They loved him.

"To understand what he accomplished, you have to get to grips with his charm as a seducer", one old Oxford friend said. "He was extremely engaging and people liked to do things for him. He was the most amusing bloke around at the time and he attracted a very wide circle of friends."

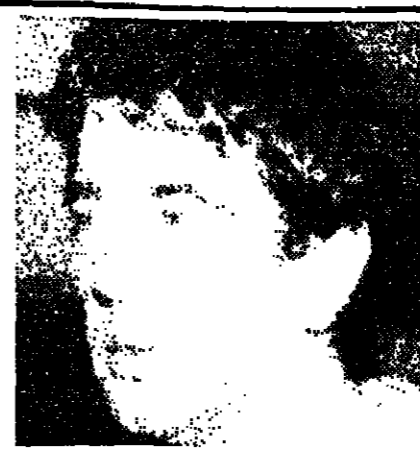
"He was a big, red-faced, boisterous Welsh boy who liked beer, dancing and girls." At parties, he did good impersonations of old Elvis and young Mick Jagger and did his best to sing in his own voice with rock and roll bands. I remember thinking, even then, that if he couldn't be a rock and roll star, he was bound to end up on the wrong side of the law. He was always going to need a very

great deal of money because he liked to spend it and he was exceedingly generous."

That friend reckons that Howard Marks "must have left Oxford colossal in debt. He certainly wasn't dealing dope in any kind of a big way then — if at all."

His Oxford friends agree that he was one of the people who could be depended upon to have a small supply of marijuana and to share it generously; they also agree that supplies and use of marijuana among undergraduates were very limited between 1963 and 1966 and that Howard Marks' favourite drugs of the time were a pint of best bitter and a packet of Player's in a pub.

At Sussex in the later Sixties, Howard Marks penetrated an altogether different group of people which, again, he dominated and captivated. Arriving in Brighton with his first wife Ilse (an



effervescent woman of Latvian birth who later married the literary agent Michael Sissons), Howard Marks entered a high society of tight friendships and sexual relationships. The purchase and use of large quantities of illegal drugs was a central activity; Howard went into selling.

By the end of the decade and the beginnings of the Seventies, when those Sussex friends were mostly in London, they all had BMW 2002's — all the same orange. They had answering machines and Olympus cameras and IBM golfball typewriters and furs and records and antique furniture and they smoked coke and drank white Burgundy while they played Go or chess. They were not, however, upwardly mobile: they were just rich.

"He became the role model for a set," says a friend who knew him then.

"Having been at Oxford gave him the credentials to join that set which was very un-studentish. Everybody was pretty well-heeled and they used to do a lot of things that normal students couldn't afford."

Howard Marks was, apparently, naturally fited by nature and talent to the business of drug dealing. "He always loved organizing card indexes and you can be quite sure that his business systems would be a model."

"His only weakness as a businessman is that he's not a very good judge of character. That would be a serious weakness in any business: in drugs' dealing it could be fatal."

Whatever may be the truth about his most recent alleged activities, it is clear that Howard Marks was making a great deal of money out of drugs' dealing in the early years of the Seventies, after he set up the shop called Annabellina in Oxford, through which proceeds were laundered.

Though everybody knew, it would seem that he never told his friendly directly about the trade in which he was engaged, except that he frequently told them that he was not dealing in heroin.

They were not at all surprised by his previous arrests and court appearances, even by the more bizarre and far-fetched allegations and explanations. Yet they were all surprised, they say, to hear that he had been arrested this week and accused again of drugs' dealing.

"I always thought he was far too clever to be caught," said a man. "On the other hand, there's have been no fun in it for Howard if nobody had ever known what he was doing."

## Barristers to examine right to trial by jury

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The 900-strong Criminal Bar Association is to examine whether the time has come to restrict the right of defendants in certain cases to choose trial by jury.

The association is setting up a committee on the issue, which has come to the fore recently with the disclosure that such curbs are being looked at by senior officials in the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Mr David Cocks, QC, chairman of the association, said: "I would like to make clear that the policy of this association is and always has been against any further curtailment of the right to elect jury trial."

That policy not only prevailed within the association but was the case outside it.

Referring to the failure of governments to restrict the right to jury trial for minor theft, he added: "No government has dared to touch this issue with a bargepole. It is so sensitive." But there was now a feeling in the association

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, discloses today why he has no regrets about never having been Prime Minister.

Lord Hailsham, aged 80, who served under seven Prime Ministers, says: "Nobody but a fool would want to be Prime Minister, and nobody but a coward would refuse it."

He says in an interview in this week's *Woman* magazine: "The only thing I feel confident about is that under me we would have won the 1964 election."

that the issue should be looked at again.

There is strong opposition within the criminal Bar to tinkering with the right to jury trial, but some senior barristers are known to be in favour of some curtailment for minor offences.

Already, Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC, vice-chairman of the influential association, has expressed his personal view that the right to jury trial

should be curbed in minor cases of dishonesty, possession of soft drugs and offensive weapons.

Such curbs are being examined by the Lord Chancellor's Department with a view to tackling an acute shortage of circuit judges. There is concern over the growing mismatch between the workload of the crown court and judicial manpower available.

The Law Society is against any curbs, but many judges, magistrates and justices' clerks would support a move to take some minor cases out of the crown court.

There is also concern within the society that although solicitors are eligible for the circuit bench, senior judges are believed to oppose increasing numbers of solicitor-circuit judges. At present, such judges account for one tenth of the 400-odd circuit judges.

Sir Derek Bradbeer, retiring president of the society, has called on the Council of Judges to make clear that view is not now held by the judges.

## Judge to report lawyers over delay

A firm of solicitors acting for a man held in prison for months while waiting for a place at a secure hospital are to be reported to the Law Society by a Central Criminal Court judge.

Mr Justice Rougier yesterday said he was "disgusted" at the case of an arsonist, said to be severely mentally ill, who had been kept in jail since last August. He adjourned the hearing without an intended

hospital order because the legal firm of Duthie, Hart and Duthie, Greengate, of Barking Road, Plaistow, east London, had not arranged for a doctor to come to court.

Throwing down his pencil, the judge said: "I think it is disgraceful, absolutely disgraceful."

He added that it was wrong that "persons who are obtaining part of their professional income from the legal aid fund

should be so blind to the basic requirements of a case of this kind....

"We are here for the third time. I propose to refer the matter to the Law Society. I am disgusted."

Peter Cherry, aged 30, set fire to his east London council flat in August last year because he believed aliens were coming out of his television screen and attacking him. He pleaded guilty to arson last December.

## £275,000 payoff for RIBA man



Golden goodbye: Patrick Harrison enjoying retirement at his home in north London yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

A settlement of about £275,000 was paid to Mr Patrick Harrison, the secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects, who resigned last year after a consultant's report criticized the organization's "bad management and inefficiency".

Members of the institute's ruling council, who were told the amount in camera early this year, yesterday confirmed the figure, which has never been officially disclosed.

Mr Harrison's settlement was one of three "major and exceptional areas of expenditure" in 1987 which led to a total deficit for the institute of £1.2 million, as reported in *The Times* yesterday.

The settlement is included in a figure of £417,000 shown in the 1987 accounts

for the costs of the management consultant's report and the "initial implementation of its recommendations".

Mr Harrison, aged 60, joined the institute in 1968 from the Scottish Development Department, where he was a principal. He was awarded a CBE in 1982.

He said yesterday that there was an understanding with the institute that the details of the settlement would remain confidential. They should only be disclosed by resolution of the Council and with his agreement.

The settlement is believed to be made up of a cash payment of £100,000 and pension rights of £175,000. When he resigned from the institute, after 19

years, he was earning about £50,000 a year. The institute declined to comment on the settlement.

The consultants, Hay Management, said in their report that RIBA was "much worse run than other organizations we've come across".

Mr Harrison immediately tendered his resignation, which was accepted by the council.

Mr Max Hutchinson, president-elect of the institute, said yesterday: "Although the amount of the settlement is a confidential matter by agreement, it is clearly shown in the accounts as part of the Hay exercise. Everybody is aware of the initial implementation stage of their recommendations."

## Appeal on gun rules rejected

Two High Court judges ruled yesterday that a firearms certificate was valid only in respect of the gun for which it was issued and not to any similar weapon the holder might obtain as a substitute.

Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Henry dismissed an appeal by Mr Geoffrey Wilson, a registered firearms dealer, against three convictions of selling or transferring guns to customers who did not have valid certificates.

The customers held certificates for guns which they exchanged for 22 rifles or pistols at Mr Wilson's shop in Callington, Cornwall.

One owner's gun was in for repair and another was taken on loan, the second customer agreed a part-exchange, and the third returned a pistol taken on trial and received another to test.

Mr Wilson, given a conditional discharge by Liskeard magistrates last year, appealed to the High Court arguing that he did not breach the Firearms Act 1968, because in each case the new gun was of the same type as that replaced and was therefore covered by the same certificate.

The judges ruled the original weapon only in each case was covered, meaning gun owners must apply to the police for a variation of their certificates before they can acquire replacements.

Later, Mr Wilson, a member of the Gun Trade Association, said he would consider taking his case to the House of Lords. "This decision is a blow against legitimate shooters and firearms dealers."

Law Report, page 37

## Myth as good as a mile in the literary odyssey

By Philip Howard, Literary Editor

The biggest questions in literature are about inexhaustible Homer. Dr Oliver Taplin, of Magdalen College, Oxford, gave assembled classicists at Oxford yesterday some lively and persuasive new answers.

Dr Taplin has been looking for fundamental structural divisions in the *Iliad*, as opposed to later slices of convenience, such as the 24 books.

He believes he has found only two such organic junctures, between books nine and 11 (the Doloneia in Book 10 gets the thumbs down as an interpolation), and somewhere before

the beginning of Book 19. Near the beginning and end of these movements, he has found significant recurrent links. For example, scenes of ransom and hospitality, and temporal indicators about nightfall and the rosy-fingered new day.

Dr Taplin calculates that these movements would have taken nine hours 30 minutes, nine hours and six hours 40 minutes respectively to perform. He argues for a performance on three successive days. After all, the poem was created for performance, probably for a sacred festival.

What audience might be especially pleased by the *Iliad*? Dr Taplin specu-

lates romantically that the landscape and description of the home ground in the poem were given a local particularity to please the audience.

Was the *Iliad* first performed at a festival in the Troad, where voyagers can still see the tomb of Hector?

A myth is as good as a mile up a Greek mountain. Dr Richard Buxton, of Bristol University, explored imaginary Greek mountains. Where we cry, "To the woods", the ancient Greeks said: "To the mountains".

Mountains had many uses in ancient Greece: for wood and stone, for hunting, for refuge and for sanctuary. Greek myths recount the

role of the mountains as refuges, places for fire beacons and home of the gods. But myths also reflect reality, transforming it by exaggeration and caricature.

Mountains are outside and wild, the homes of centaurs and sphinxes. They were there before the rest of the world and the civilization of tongue.

They are also places for reversals, where distinctions of the city collapse, metamorphoses happen, females hunt and almost anyone goes mad. Myths and the real world met in Greek ritual, which exploited as symbolic drama the contrast between the two.

Letters, page 11

## Prison riots force admissions review

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Procedures for the allocation of prisoners to low-security jails is to be changed in the wake of riots at Haverigg and Lindholme prisons.

An inquiry by Mr Gordon Lakes, deputy director general of the Prison Department, found that small numbers of determined troublemakers sparked the disturbances.

Twelve members of staff and three prisoners were slightly hurt during rioting at Haverigg, Cumbria, last June and 18 prisoners reported minor injuries after trouble at Lindholme, near Doncaster, earlier this month.

Mr Lakes recommended better contingency plans and a revision of security arrangements. There is also to be a further review of security in converted camps, of allocation procedures, and monitoring of prison populations.

converted camps, classed as "Category C", for prisoners who cannot be trusted in an open prison but who do not have the ability or the resources to make an escape attempt.

Dr Stephen Shaw, director of the Prison Reform Trust, yesterday challenged the findings as outlined in a parliamentary written answer by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Dr Shaw said that there were not only riots at Lindholme and Haverigg, but an earlier one at Rollestone, Wiltshire, also a converted camp and "Category C" prison.

The pressure on the prison system had meant that some prisoners were being improperly categorized as Category C simply because it was easier to find places for them in Category C prisons, he said.

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# Police end Biko film's short run

From Michael Hornsby  
Johannesburg

In a sequence of events bizarre even by South African standards, the Commissioner of Police, General Hendrik de Witt, last night ordered the seizure of all copies of Sir Richard Attenborough's film *Cry Freedom*, after it had been showing to multiracial audiences in 35 cinemas.

Yesterday morning the film was approved for screening uncut by the Publications Appeal Board, the official body in Pretoria which vets all films, on condition that only people over the age of 19 would be allowed to see it. The approval came only minutes before the first performances were due to begin at 10am.

Several hours later, as people were coming out of the first showing of the film in Johannesburg and other big cities, Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Minister of Justice, said that he had not cleared the film for screening in terms of the Internal Security Act.

*Cry Freedom* is based on two books by Mr Donald Woods, a South African newspaper editor now living in exile in Britain about his friendship with Steve Biko, the black activist who died in custody in September 1977. Mr Woods is a "banned" person and may not be quoted in South Africa without ministerial permission.

Mr Coetsee did not have the power to ban the film. But as he had not cleared it for screening in terms of the Internal Security Act, the distributors immediately became liable to prosecution.

Two bomb explosions, one



The audience leaving a cinema near Johannesburg, where a bomb exploded shortly before *Cry Freedom* was to be shown.

in Johannesburg's Alexandra black township, and the other in Durban, accompanied the first showings of the film. Nobody was injured in the blasts, and it is not yet clear who was responsible for them.

In Alexandra, a black shanty town on the north-eastern outskirts of Johannesburg, a bomb exploded outside the local cinema. In Durban, police came into a cinema and ordered the audience out. Fifteen minutes later a bomb went off.

*Cry Freedom* was first cleared, uncut and without

any age restriction, by a committee of the Directorate of Publications last November. But last Monday Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, instructed the Publications Appeal Board to reconsider.

The board said yesterday morning that in its view the film did "not present a risk to race relations or to the security of the state". It argued that the film was "a somewhat mediocre product" and that if its intention was "to invoke a revolutionary response" it would "fail dismally" because

of its "caricature, sensationalism and obvious bias".

The general response of the mainly black audiences who flocked to see the film yesterday was enthusiastic. Many said they thought the film would improve race relations by showing whites the conditions in which blacks live.

The film contains scenes of the police bulldozing a squatter camp in the Crossroads shanty settlement near Cape Town, and the shooting of black children in Soweto.

CAPE TOWN: White South Africans who attended one of

a handful of screenings of *Cry Freedom* said they were shocked and deeply moved.

"The film should be seen," said Gary Fryer, a student who was among 170 people at the morning showing of the film in Cape Town. "It will open people's minds a bit. You don't come out feeling aggressive, you come out feeling shocked."

The audience appeared stunned by scenes portraying police shooting black demonstrators, raiding a squatter camp and mistreating the detained Biko.

## Village Voice

# Busmen's dream killed by storm in a tea cup

From a village in the Himalayas

The grand new vistas which the coming of the bus had unveiled were disappearing. The feud the bus had provoked between the village's two richest men, on whom everybody depended for employment, undermined even the gains the community had made in the past. The conflict could ruin the village — unless the desperate plot hatched by its elders succeeded.

Nain Singh, the headman, who had won the first round when the inauguration of the bus service was celebrated by the whole village at his tea-shop, did not enjoy his triumph for long. Jagatram, the owner of the second tea-shop, began drawing customers by selling tea cheaply. Nain Singh countered by adding more milk to his tea and serving it in attractive cups. Their energies, once pooled to bid jointly for government contracts which provided employment, were now centred on the tea-shops and bus passengers.

Villagers had sized up the situation; so long as the bus kept coming, the former partners would remain enemies, each man for himself, neglecting the good of the community. The only hope of ending the hostility lay in removing its cause: the bus, with all the dreams it inspired.

The bus company knew nothing of all this, but became concerned: as the novelty of the bus service wore off, the number of passengers dwindled. The few who had been drawn from town to the newly accessible area soon satisfied their curiosity. The flow of passengers, who came from outlying villages to try out the new means of locomotion, also dried up. The fewer passengers there were, the

stiffer the rivalry became between the two tea-shops.

The bus company came to rely for its profit more on the produce the village was sending to town than on passengers. Now the village could play its card. The movement of freight was at its peak. The ragged leather seats once reserved for passengers were occupied by sacks full of potatoes. Sheep and goats owned by rich villagers went by bus to town, where they fetched a better price.

The bus company's profit had shrunk, but still justified a bus service. The bus came virtually empty, but always departed laden with goods. Inexplicably, the amount of freight began to fall. To offset the loss of income, the bus was often diverted to other routes. Nain Singh and Jagatram protested long and volubly when the service became erratic and irregular. The villagers remained silent, biding their time. They still had a trump card.

The coming of the road had made the village easier to reach. Officials who rarely visited it now came more often and agreed at last to fund the building of the village high school. If a local contractor landed the job the construction would give work to many villagers.

There were other projects in the pipeline too, but none would benefit the village if outsiders grabbed the contracts. The government invited contract bids. Unless Nain Singh and Jagatram ended their rivalry, restored their partnership, and secured the work, the village would continue to suffer. That was when the villagers decided to strike: no more freight was loaded on the bus. The bus

conductor, puzzled, found that there was no shortage of produce. The company instructed him to inform the village elders that unless enough freight was forthcoming, the service would cease.

They heard him out, expressed their regrets, smiled broadly, and assured him that they could do nothing. They were strangely unmoved by the threat to terminate the bus service. What little the village produced, they blandly claimed, it needed for its own survival.

The withdrawal of the bus made little difference, except to the two tea-houses, now deserted even by the villagers. Nain Singh and Jagatram paced disconsolately in front of their shacks, waiting for custom.

They were not on speaking terms, but with no one to talk to, they gradually began exchanging sporadic remarks — complaints, mostly, about the elders who had advised villagers to withhold their freight from the bus and thus force it off the route.

But it got them talking. Before long they bid for the school building contract and won it.

After the school was built, there would be other contracts. The dreams the village had started out with were gone with the bus, but its poor now had employment and the wages it brought.

Wages meant food, here and now. Dreams could wait. But, with Nain Singh and Jagatram acting in concert again, even the dreams might yet come true.

© Victor Zorza & Veenu Sandal, 1988  
Next Saturday: One villager defies the whole community

# Mandela denies giving power to US lawyer

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Nelson Mandela, the jailed leader of the African National Congress, yesterday denied that he had ever granted power of attorney to a black American businessman, Mr Robert Brown, to represent his family's interests.

In a statement issued through his lawyer, Mr Ismail Ayob, Mandela also let it be known he did not want any "prosecution or witch-hunt" of the black children who on Thursday burnt down the family bungalow in Soweto.

In a bizarre turn of events, Mandela, by implication, also repudiated his wife, Mrs Winnie Mandela, who was at Mr

Brown's side at a press conference in Cape Town last Saturday when he announced the power-of-attorney agreement. They had both just visited Mandela in Pollsmoor prison. She now claims that Mr Brown was "misquoted".

The previous day, Mrs Mandela had allowed Mr Brown to put out a press release in her name stating that he was "being granted full power of attorney for the Mandela family worldwide".

At his joint appearance with Mrs Mandela, Mr Brown added a proviso to the earlier press release, saying that a condition of the power-of-

attorney deal was that he should consult the ANC president, Mr Oliver Tambo, in Lusaka, on all matters relating to the Mandelas.

But in the statement released yesterday, Mandela declared that when he met Mr Brown he "firmly rejected the suggestion made by Mr Brown that he be given a power-of-attorney to represent the interests of the family".

Mandela said he first heard of Mr Brown through a letter addressed to him by the president of Boston University, in the US, during early 1987, when Mr Brown helped his daughter, Zenani, and son-

-in-law, Thumbumuzi, to obtain scholarships to study there. Mr Brown is known in the US as a conservative black businessman who is opposed to economic sanctions against South Africa. He was nominated by President Reagan in 1986 to be US Ambassador here, but pulled out after questions were raised about the propriety of some of his business dealings.

Mr Ayob said he was unable to explain why Mandela had repudiated the agreement with Mr Brown, earlier endorsed by his wife. He said that he had been urgently summoned to Pollsmoor by Mandela on

Thursday and had drafted the text of the denial with him.

Neither Mrs Mandela nor Mr Brown were available for comment yesterday.

The burning of Mrs Mandela's house seems to have arisen from a feud over a girl. A local student, it appears, shared the same girlfriend as a bodyguard of Mrs Mandela's. When he discovered this, he beat her and she complained to her other boyfriend. The student was allegedly forced to appear before a "people's court" in Mrs Mandela's house and later roughed up. The arson seems to have been in retaliation.

# Gujarat police abandon pay strike

Delhi — Police in Gujarat unconditionally called off their strike over pay yesterday in response to an appeal by the state Government (Kuldip Nayar writes).

The police had been on strike for six days but most of their members were already returning to work. In a joint

statement, the four unions — the Police Constables Union, the Police Head Constables Union, the Police Sub-Inspectors Union and the Police Inspectors Union — said the strike was called off in view of "hardships" experienced by the people of the state and "the law and order problems"

in Baroda and Godhra, the two cities worst affected by mob violence.

The Government, while welcoming the development, has said that dismissed policemen, reported to number 100, will not be reinstated, nor will it restore legal recognition of the four unions.

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SATURDAY

July 30 - August 5, 1988

The rock comes out of its shell

An oyster festival, in July? Heresy, some say. Pearson Phillips discovered how Whitstable has put an 'R' in the month

There are many ways of enjoying oysters. You can browse the stalls of a country market in Normandy or Charente and buy, from the tub, the small, firm, so-called Portuguese variety beloved by the French, so adept with their oyster knives. Or, in the Caribbean, you can spend a day afloat as I once did with a barrel of small oysters picked fresh from the mango roots on the shore; a squeeze of fresh lime, a dash of cayenne pepper, and slurp.

Or, for £14.99, you can have delivered to your breakfast table, by express post, two dozen Whitstables, fresh from their home on that breezy, deserted stretch of the north Kent coast. Take a glass of stout, Muscadet, or champagne, open your oysters and gulp them down as your great-grandparents used to do.

The Whitstables may not have the fullness of flavour of, say, the Colchester natives, or the American oysters now available at Billingsgate (where, incidentally, you can also buy American alligator these days). But the very fact that you can eat Whitstable oysters at all - and that in a month without an "R" - represents a minor miracle.

British oyster-lovers have been going through hard times. A combination of disease, hard winters, predatory starfish, a plague of insects called tangles, pollution, over-dredging and the sailing fraternity's addiction to a chemical anti-fouling agent (now banned) almost wiped out the delicate, flat-shelled native breed. It also made life difficult for other breeds imported to take its place. But things are changing. I keep seeing a scribbled note on the top of restaurant menus offering, almost as an afterthought, "Rock Oysters". Sometimes they are "Irish rock oysters". Sometimes "Norfolk rock oysters", or "Lochlynne rock oysters". Oyster consumption in Britain is now rising at about 30 per cent a year. But it is still quite small. We eat around ten million of them a year, still a long way behind the four hundred million devoured by the French.

The cradle of this oyster comeback is a sinister-looking establishment nesting behind the sea wall in Whitstable. Through the windows of low block houses it is possible to glimpse a system of tanks and glass pipe work. Substances bubble in banks of large retorts that look like upturned lemonade bottles.



Putting the oyster in everyone's reach, all the year round: according to John Bayes, managing director of Seasalter Shellfish, "we've got to get across the idea that it is no longer a luxury food"

"Upturned lemonade bottles is what they originally were," says John Bayes, who appears to have modelled himself on the traditional mad scientist of fiction, with a big black beard and a dream of changing the world. He is the managing director of a company called Seasalter Shellfish. It is likely that most of the oysters attributed on menus to various parts of the British Isles were originally born here, in one of Bayes's upturned lemonade bottles.

He rears them until they look like very small potato crisps and then sells them by the plastic sack-load to oyster farmers, who have been setting up in increasing numbers all round the coast. They pay him £700 for 30,000, then stack them on special rafts or staging and wait two or three years for them to grow to the size which

will tempt the catering trade to pay 18p a piece for them. "It's wonderful," one oyster farmer told me. "You just put them in the sea and they grow all by themselves." By the time they get to the restaurant they can cost a £1 each. It's a middle man's world.

But what is all this about "rock oysters"? The name is a public relations invention, an attempt to make oysters more palatable to the British public, in the way that a certain featureless fish has been christened rock salmon. The oyster in question is properly called *crassostrea gigas*, the giant or Pacific oyster. In spite of its Pacific origins, it flourishes in cold northern water. "It is the answer," Bayes says. "It is easy to breed, it grows fast, it resists disease, and you can eat it all the year round."

All year round? But surely... Ah, that business of not eating

them unless there is an "R" in the month refers to the native oyster, which harbours its young inside its own shell, and is apt to be unpalatable in the summer season. The *gigas* does not breed in British waters except in hatchery conditions.

The farming of oysters was pioneered by a French scientist, Professor M.P. Costé, in the last century. He dreamt of feeding the poor of Europe on cheap, good, farmed seafood. John Bayes came into it when he was doing marine biology research at Poole. He answered an advertisement to build up a mollusc breeding plant in Whitstable in 1966. It was the Seasalter Shellfish company trying to reverse the decline of the local product by breeding their own.

"By the early Seventies we had cracked it," he says. His chief contribution was something called the "up-welling method". To produce oysters in quantity

they need to be heaped in containers on top of each other. The problem is that those on the bottom of the heap suffocate. Bayes's method pumps water out of the sea, into a nursery pond, and then into a round drum containing the baby oysters. The water is forced through fine mesh at the bottom of the container and out from the top, so every little oyster gets a go at the nutrient-rich water flowing past its shell.

Bayes showed me the holding tanks full of small seedlings (or spat) waiting to go to the growers. The seawater flowing into the bottom was green; by the time it had come out of the top it was pale and clear, with all the goodness sucked out of it.

A hundred years ago, the protein-rich oyster was indeed the poor man's staple. Their sybaritic image came later, with scarcity. "It's the public," Bayes says. "Somehow we've got to get across the idea that it is no longer a

luxury food. Why shouldn't people discover how good they are when they are cooked? And if only we could persuade the supermarkets that it was something they could have on their shelves..."

At the job of smartening up the oyster's image is in other hands. The town of Whitstable, once a centre of the trade before the famous Royal Whitstable Oyster was over-fished out of existence, is currently holding its Fifth Oyster Festival. Today the sea scouts are doing their stuff before Nicolette Whitaker (cello) and the Oyster Quartet will play at the Royal Native Oyster Store. Tonight the Whitstable Brass will play at a sing-along and seafood supper in the assembly rooms. It all has the delightful Dickensian flavour which always seems to cling to oysters. As Barrie Green, who has just bought con-

rol of the Royal Whitstable Oyster Company, puts it: "We have a lot of faith in the future. Everything in nature is cyclical. We are ready for the oyster's return."

Helped, of course, by science. He will be planting some of Bayes's seed himself next year. He is encouraged by the fact that he sold 5,000 at £2 a half dozen at the last festival. The old company headquarters is destined to become an oyster restaurant. And so Whitstable celebrates its new-found heritage. But there is one slight snag to all this: the gourmets are huffy about a Pacific oyster. As our tasting (below) suggests, they believe it lacks the taste of the old-time native product. Eating one straight from the beds on Whitstable beach, it was hard to tell, so I asked Bayes if there was any real difference. "I wouldn't know," he said. "I never eat them. I'm allergic." There is a true scientist.

How do they compare?

Are summer oysters worth eating? The French certainly think so, and serve them up sans interruption. But traditional London oysterages such as the Savoy, Whitons, Scott's and Green's do not serve them between May and August.

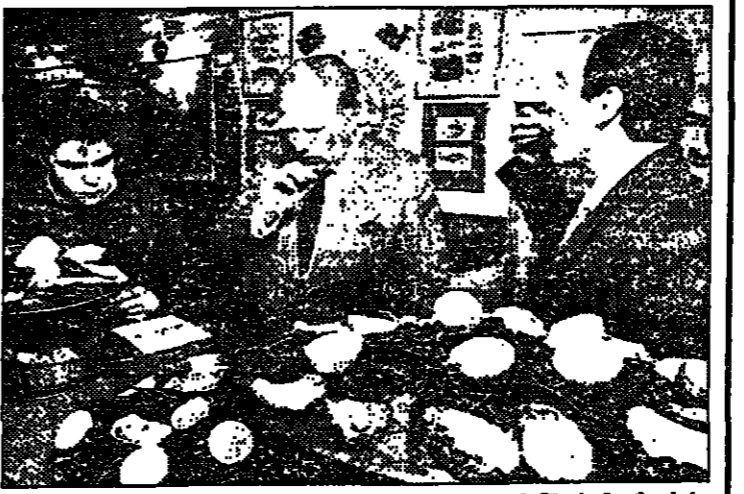
It is illegal to sell the native oyster, *ostrea edulis*, from May 14 to August 4, the spawning period. That legislation, though, was introduced for conservation reasons rather than to safeguard human health. Though Whitstable has lost its natives, populations survive in the Solent, the Helford and the Fal, and at Colchester, though some Colchesters these days originate from other areas.

Oysters are more difficult to handle in hot weather, and the delicate native is more prone to quick collapse than *crassostrea gigas* which, kept reasonably ventilated and chilled, can survive up to two weeks out of water.

There is no shortage of would-be suppliers. Summer oysters are imported from France, Ireland, Holland and Portugal. There have even been consignments from New Zealand (very disappointing) and the United States.

To test Whitstable's product against some of the competition we set up a blind tasting at Café Fish in Panton Street in London's West End. Whitstable's best were pitted against platters of Café Fish's *fin de claire* (*gigas* from France) and American oysters flown in fresh from Apalachicola, Florida.

Our tasters were David Cavalier, chef at Cavalier's restaurant, in Queenstown Road, Battersea; Chris Leftwich, who, as inspector to the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, is responsible for quality control at Billingsgate; and Ewan Hilleary, managing director of the fishmongers Cecil & Co and James Knight. The results suggested Whitstable has some way to go in regaining British oyster lovers' favour. Keith Vernon, chef at Café Fish, found the Whitstable *gigas* the most difficult to open. "They have got a lot of baracac growth, and



Taste test: David Cavalier, Ewan Hilleary and Chris Leftwich

the shells are flaky," he said. Once opened, the Whitstable *gigas* had a plump, creamy well-filled appearance, much fatter than the green-tinged *fin de claire* from France. Though initially attracted by the Whitstables' appearance, Hilleary was appalled by their flavour. "I would happily knock back a dozen natives, but I really wouldn't want a second one of those." The French oysters had livelier flavour, he said, but "the traditional customer used to native oysters is never going to switch to either of these". Leftwich was equally unenthusiastic. "I found the milkiness very unpalatable, almost sickly." He also thought the Whitstable oyster's flesh was too soft and easily broken and the aftertaste "unpleasant". He said the French oysters had an attractive, seaweed smell and pleasant flavour, though lacking body.

Cavalier's verdict was that the Whitstables might be useful for cooking but suffered from a "bad aftertaste". The French oysters, though thin, had a "good fresh smell, and pleasant taste". Everyone's favourites, though, were the oysters from Florida, whose smooth, rounded shells more resembled *ostrea edulis*. They were really *crassostrea virginica*, the American or Eastern oyster. "Completely different," said Hilleary. "Fine texture, very pleasant flavour."

Leftwich added: "Very good texture, full-bodied with very pleasant flavour, but a slightly earthy aftertaste." John Bayes was undismayed by the results. "The creaminess is because of the time of the year," he said. "A lot of people like them like that." And while there was no price difference between the three samples our panel tasted, natives would have cost two or three times as much.

Robin Young

Matter of fax: all you need to know about the revolution, page 16

INDEX table listing various events and their dates.

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Keith Vernon, chef at Café Fish, found the Whitstable gigas the most difficult to open. "They have got a lot of baracac growth, and

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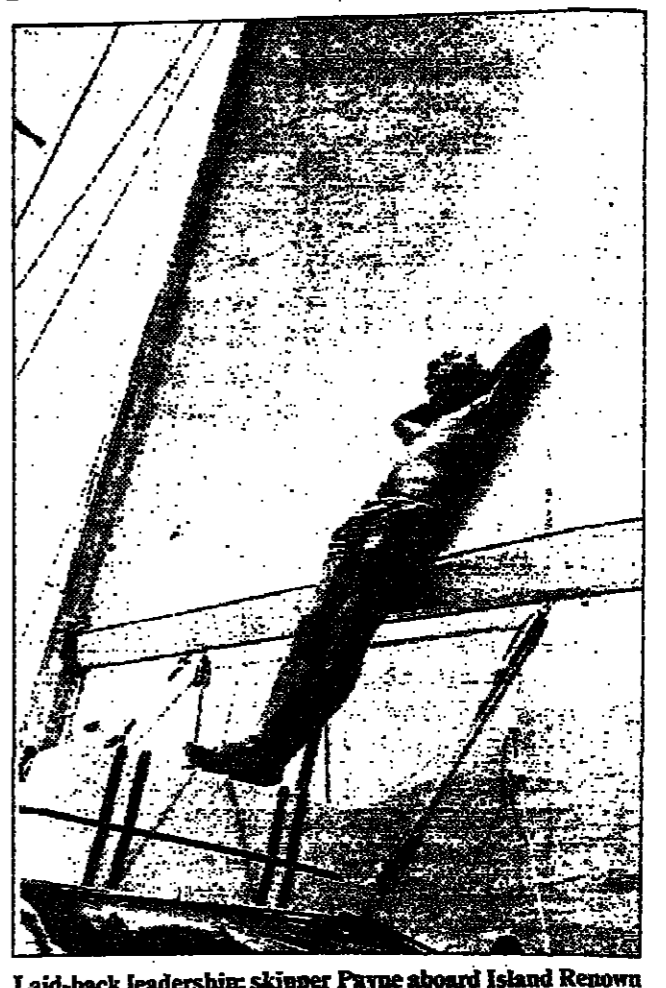
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## TRAVEL 1



Laid-back leadership: skipper Payne aboard Island Renown

# Circular sailing

Nicole Swengley sails round Menorca the easy way - with a resident cook and a skipper who is kind to the crew

Sailing stories are often a little suspect. So if someone had suggested, before my holiday, that sailing around Menorca would mean being in a force five alongside dolphins and a whale, I would have dismissed this as a salty yarn.

The boat was modern, with two aft double cabins and eight further berths, two heads (sea-loos), a shower, ice-boxes and cooker, two sailboards and snorkelling gear.

Even the skipper and cook-mate aboard Island Renown, our 45 foot Gib'Sea yacht - both experienced professionals provided by the Island Cruising Club - were surprised. Blue water cruising is usually dreamy, with canvas flapping peacefully in a gentle breeze. But our spunking eight knot close reach from Ciudadella to Mahon denied this idyllic image of sunshine sailing. As for the whale, with great grey flanks arching above the water and plunging head-first with a sigh, he - or she - was a special bonus.

But sailing in Spanish waters is a rare treat anyway. Unlike Greece or Turkey, commercial flotillas flying a British flag are banned here unless the boat is registered with a nautical club in the UK, of which the crew are members. So if you want to be in the Balearics, you are obliged to belong to a fully-fledged sailing club or charter a local yacht flying a Spanish flag. The simplest choice is to join the Island Cruising Club, a unique non-profit-making organization based at Salcombe in Devon. Now in its 37th year, the club is - to its own knowledge - the only seafaring community of its kind in the world, based on joint ownership of all its boats by all its members. Now the club offers some hundred craft and runs an extensive programme of sailing holidays in home and foreign waters including instruction courses at all levels.

The advantages of club cruising over flotilla sailing are legion. With a professional skipper on hand to meet any queries, from basic boat-handling to Satnav operation, it is ideal for novices and for more experienced sailors who do not want the responsibility of skipping a yacht. It provides an excellent opportunity for singles to get afloat, and for couples who need others to charter a whole boat cost-effectively. Nor is there any need for provisioning or cooking since this is a fully-catered holiday, except for alcohol which is usually bought jointly by the crew.

Like all Island Cruising Club skippers, our sea-captain, Russell "Sprout" Payne, proved admirably calm and capable. He never mistaken anyone who made mistakes and - unlike non-club skippers - never once shouted at his crew. We were as mixed a bunch as any: a Staffordshire farmer, a carpenter, a neuro-

psychiatrist and a married couple who lived as far from the sea as possible, near Leamington Spa. Another couple, from Jamaica, were surprised to learn that the "crew of eight" included themselves.

Most places along Menorca's cliff coastline seem to be called "Cala", meaning inlet or bay. Generally more accessible by sea than land, they are usually anchored for the night.

Overnight the wind backed and a gentle sou-westerly helped us retrace our course along the south coast to Cala Coves, a magical bay where dozens of bayside caves were once inhabited by prehistoric man, and now house hippy holidaymakers.

Heading anti-clockwise around Menorca we reached Fregonda, where we swam ashore and wandered through the rocky countryside with its grazing donkeys and tiny blue butterflies. Then it was on to Ciudadella. Menorca's second largest town, passing playful dolphins and spaying playful dolphins overhead. First stop here was a hot shower at Club Nautico followed by a stroll around the narrow, winding lanes, packed with houses reminiscent of the island's Moorish occupation.

Next day, a fresh sou-westerly blew us back to Mahon in record time. To enjoy this kind of holiday you need to enter into the spirit of shipboard life and not expect Q&E treatment; but you don't need to know how to tie a bowline or plot a course, since there are always keen sailors aboard who do.

There were a few disasters. Someone made the coffee with sea-water one evening, the pressure cooker blew its top off and a bucket was nearly lost overboard. Apart from these, the only problem was that our week flew by too quickly.

For more information and membership details, contact the Island Cruising Club, The Island, Salcombe, Devon TQ8 8DF (054884 3481).

TRAVEL NOTES

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TRAVEL 2

# Roving south to a sunlit sea

The island of Porquerolles stirred memories for Travel Editor Shona Crawford Poole — but could fact match Joseph Conrad's fiction?

Citizen Peyrol had come this way when the blood-letting of the French Revolution still tormented men's dreams. In the opening pages of *The Rover*, Conrad's grizzled sea captain bemoaned the loss of his island home on the coast of Toulon. Coming to a spur of land which struck south he followed it, old memories stirred by the idea that the island rising from the sea at its tip was where he had been born.

Porquerolles, "a lumpy, indigo swelling" beyond the cartwheel ruts scored deep into the stony ground of the Giens peninsula, had long seemed more solid in my imagination than half the places I have visited in reality. And of course it was in a real landscape that Joseph Conrad set Citizen Peyrol's retirement years from a piratical life on the Barbary coast, and the last sea fight against one of Nelson's captains blockading the French fleet at Toulon.

Re-reading the text first encountered as a set book for A level Eng Lit was to discover again what odd selections memory makes. I had the shimmering salt pans and hard sunlit sea beyond. Here was the dry land, blonde as sun-faded hair. But what of these cool vaults of shade beneath parasol pines — had Conrad mentioned them? He had, and olives too, but I had forgotten, preferring to conjure up a landscape so hot that human contact was in cool, bare rooms out of the glare.

The double isthmus of the Giens

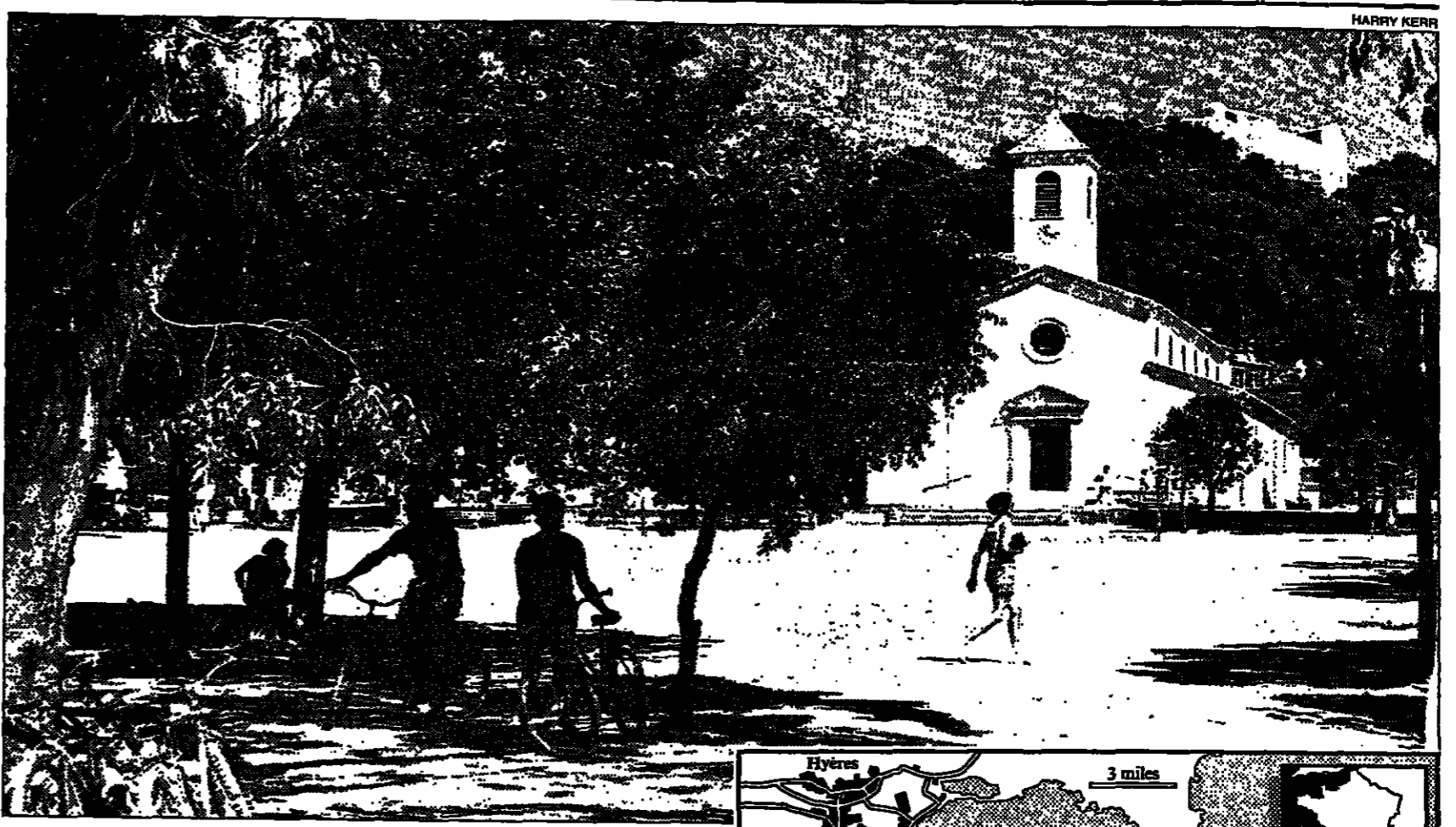
peninsula is in fact two-faced. One leg runs from Port d'Hyères, past the amply plumbed backs of the strip of beach hotels, to ferry jetties at La Tour Fondue. A second road, harder to find, runs parallel along a spine of fumes. On its seaward side, beyond tussocks of tough plants that survive marginal sand, candy-coloured windsurfers with junk-battered sails zipped across the water in a cat's cradle of triangular patterns.

And between the two roads, shallow salt lagoons, Salins des Pesquiers and Etang des Pesquiers, and a glittering white mountain of reclaimed salt.

The ferry to Porquerolles had a proper all-boards-the-*Alouette* air about it. Lovers and young families showed their legs to the sun. The tired and the tubby faced forward in the shade. Sailing boats and snappy launches bobbed in the island's little harbour. The crowd from the ferry dispersed along the jetty, fanning out on hired bicycles and comfortably shod feet to explore Porquerolles' simple attractions.

Only residents, and not too many of them, are allowed motor transport, so the sounds are all human. Coffee cups clatter on café tables, bicycle tyres make soft sounds on bare earth, snatches of talk carry on puffs of breeze.

Battered eucalyptus trees shade the stalls of espadrilles and beach things scattered round the main square. Waiters lay terrace tables for lunch. The cyclists set out for quiet beaches. Walkers head down dappled lanes to explore the cliffs of the island's southern edge. A path to the fort starts behind the church.

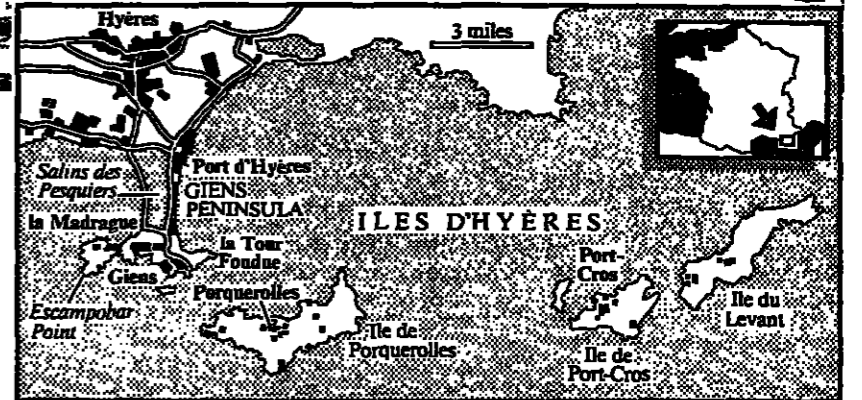


Two-wheel drive: on Porquerolles only residents are allowed motor transport

Porquerolles is the largest of the three Iles d'Hyères, known since the 16th century as the golden isles. Down the years they have been occupied by Ligurians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens, Turks and the British Navy. Monks, pirates and madmen have lived out their days on them.

Port-Cros, the second largest island, is privately owned and most of its area is a nature reserve for Mediterranean plants. It was here that D.H. Lawrence stayed with an English woman who told him of her affair with a local labourer, and this was the tale he reworked to become *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

The third island, Ile du Levant, is jointly occupied by the French Navy and France's pioneering nudist colony. "Non-nudists are allowed, but the sight of nudists being carried around on open trucks like cattle is not a welcoming one," said Michael Jacobs in his *Guide to Provence*.



TRAVEL NOTES

The French motorail services (01-409 3518) offer a painless overnight journey to the South of France. There are trains from Boulogne, Calais or Dieppe to Avignon, Fréjus, Nice and Narbonne. Boulogne to Nice with a car and driver, one additional passenger, and a first class two-bed sleeper costs £535, inclusive of the ferry crossing. A second class return and two couchettes in a six-berth compartment costs £277. There is no dining car on the train, and I would pack a picnic next time in preference to taking pot luck with the

"Pesto Box" dinner pack "best eaten by 1990" available at Boulogne. Leave time to shop for a picnic away from the immediate environs of Nice station on the return journey.

Mas du Langoustier (94 58 30 36), a well-spoken-of hotel on Porquerolles, is open again after renovation. I stayed on the mainland, further down the coast on the quiet side of the St Tropez peninsula. The terraces and balconies of the Hotel Souleias at La Croix-Valmar have lovely views. Bookable through French Selection (01-838 4244). Five nights' accommodation plus ferry crossing costs from £191 per person.

## To stay or not to stay?

If airport delays have deterred some potential holidaymakers from flying off to the sun, this week's means, including the worst summer sales the west coast of Scotland has seen in 50 years, may have put a dampener on plans to stay at home. The indecisive will find a good choice of high season holidays still available.

TRAVEL NEWS

CV Travel (01-581 0851) has villas available in August in the Algarve, on the Greek islands of Corfu and Paxos and in south western Turkey. Prices, which are not discounted, start at £342 per person for two people sharing a four-person villa in Turkey for two weeks inclusive of flights. Two sharing a four-bed villa on Corfu pay from £350 each, and four sharing a six-bed villa on Paxos, £400. Take a friend to Florida for just £1 with Poundstretcher (0293 518822). Any two adults booking a Florida holiday with Poundstretcher flying from Gatwick or Manchester on August 27, or September 3 or 10, can take a friend along too for a token £1. There is a snag, of course; you have to share a room with the third party. Alternatively, Poundstretcher is offering a discount of £75 on the same departure dates.

TRAVEL BOOKS

Arriving in a new town to discover that it is market day is always a pleasant surprise. Doing it deliberately is easier with a copy of Linda Sonntag's *A Guide To The Markets Of Britain* (Constable, £7.95). Market history, current festivals and ancient folk customs like the mock pie powder courts held at Alwrick in Northumberland colour her accounts.

Now in paperback is Howard Jacobson's *In The Land Of Oz* (Penguin, £4.95). This funny account of his travels in Australia is full of pith and moment. In 1837 the explorer George Grey landed in Australia with five men, three dogs, an undisclosed number of ponies and two pints of water. His stated aim was to familiarize the natives with the British temperament and character. One hundred and fifty years later Jacobson flew into Darwin with only one travelling companion, his wife, to do the same.

S.C.P.

Bargain in

Full size beds on boats are only one of the attractions of hotel barge cruises on the French canals. Vacances (0799 25101) has converted traditional 100-ton barges into luxurious catered accommodation in three cruising areas — the Midi, Alsace-Lorraine, and Burgundy. Each boat accommodates six or eight people plus crew. Prices start at £665 per person for a six night cruise, exclusive of travel to France.

Costs del Sol. The holidays are available in 39 resorts in Spain, Portugal and Italy.

Cheap in Oz

The Australian airline Qantas (01-748 3131) is selling tickets on domestic flights at 45 per cent of normal fares. The "Discover Australia" fares are available only to visitors and can be booked on production of an international ticket to Australia, regardless of the airline used for the London to Australia flights. The price of a one way "Discover Australia" ticket from Cairns to Sydney is £96, compared with the Australian Airlines regular fare of £136.

Floral dance

A one day excursion to see Jersey's famous Battle of the Flowers on August 11 costs £35 with British Channel Island Ferries (0705 666900). The fare includes reserved Pullman seats on both overnight crossings — the 21.30 hours sailing from Portsmouth on August 10, and the

22.00 hours from Jersey arriving at Weymouth at 06.45 on August 12. A coach will return to Portsmouth, stopping at Bournemouth and Southampton.

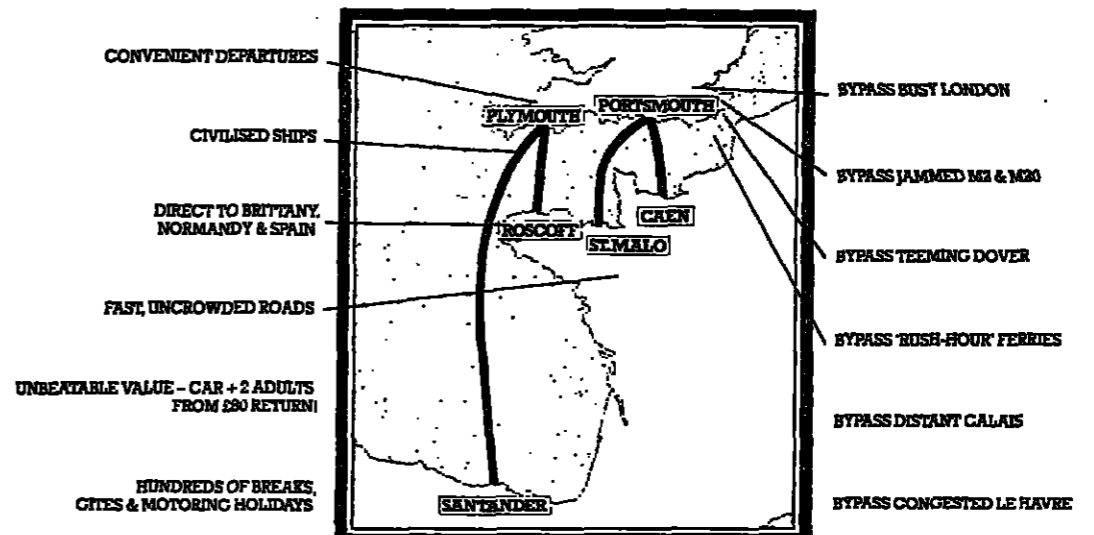
Hole hogs

Making the best of the big dig, Channel-watching is the latest gimmick in the weekend break business. Holidays featuring visits to the channel tunnel construction sites in Kent and northern France are planned by Golden Gateways Holidays (0892 511808) starting this autumn. They will be a terrific treat for all those people who cannot resist looking at a hole in the road.

Lucky strike

Going to a baseball game should be on the itinerary of every visitor to the US. In the case of Transatlantic Baseball Tours (01-462 6363) it is the first priority. Prices start at £567 for a weekend in Boston inclusive of flights, hotel accommodation and reserved seats for the games.

## THE BYPASS TO HOLIDAY FRANCE & SPAIN



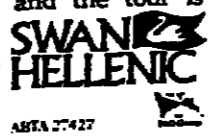
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SHOPPING

Fax of everyday life

Facsimile transmission is transforming the Eighties, and not just in business. Sally Brompton charts its rise and rise

In the West Sussex village of Hurstpierpoint (population: 5,300), two-thirds of the 60 commercial operations in the high street subscribe to the local fax bureau...

In Japan students who, before their exams, traditionally offer up prayers at the Shinto shrines, now fax the local priest to do it for them.

An Operation Raleigh expedition, lost in a dense bamboo forest in southern Chile, was rescued by Chilean army helicopters after they were alerted by a fax message from worried HQ personnel.

The innovation of the fax machine has revolutionized not merely the business world but everyday life. Being able to send a facsimile of any document down a telephone line in a few seconds for a few pence has taken communications technology beyond the era of the telex and teletype.

With nearly half a million terminals in operation in Britain, a figure doubling each year, fax is transforming the business world of the late 1980s in the way that personal computers did a few years ago.

The first commercial fax machine was produced in Japan in 1973 after the Japanese, unable to transmit their own symbols by telex, recognized its potential. Its worldwide capabilities were obvious but the world had to be convinced. There was no point in investing in a terminal unless the people with whom you needed to communicate had one as well. So the revolution began slowly, gathering momentum only in the last four or five years.

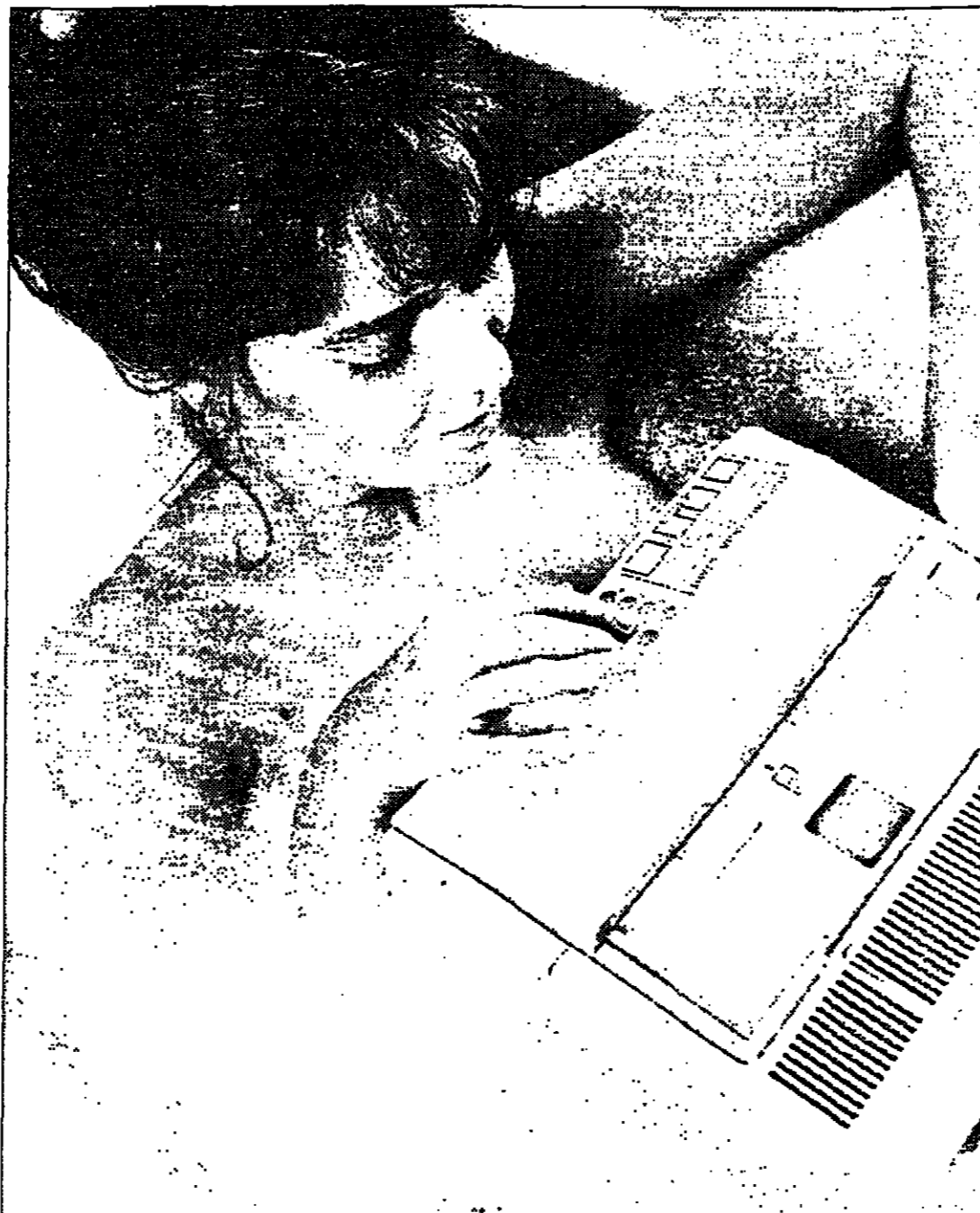
Popularity has bred more sophisticated and cheaper machines. Today, with prices in the country ranging from £995 for British Telecom's recently-launched portable fax to well over £6,000 for Canon's most expensive terminal...

It has meant that barristers can receive last-minute documents and have time to study them before going into court; artists, architects and designers can send their artwork across the world and get an immediate response. Lloyds Bank, one of the first British banks to recognize the potential of the fax machine, now has one in every branch.

"Fax is such fun," enthuses Caroline Day, manager of British Telecom's facsimile division. "There are all sorts of interesting marketing things to do with it and it's moving so fast. Every time I give a speech I have to re-do my slides because the market's changed. You have to run just to stay where you are."

British Telecom (BT) introduced its own fax nationwide in 1985. It is primarily a Panasonic product, although BT has started to commission manufacturers to produce machines to its own specification.

Most machines are made in Japan, while a handful come from France. Britain, with 30 per cent of Europe's machines, has the third biggest fax market in the world, following Japan with around two million machines and America with about one million. In America, retail sales are expected to rise to 700,000 units this year at a cost of more than \$1 billion.



More uses than a plastic duck: the go-anywhere portable fax machine (Sharp FO-150, £1,448 plus VAT)

Britain has 25 national suppliers, all "aggressively promoting their products", according to Malcolm Acres, chairman of the British Facsimile Industry Consultative Committee (BFICC). Canon and Nefax lead the way, each with roughly 20 per cent of the market.

Canon's biggest sellers are the machines costing between £2,000 and £2,500. "The market has shifted dramatically towards the lower end," Velissarides says. "But, having said that, people are beginning to look for sturdier machines and anything can happen in the future."

Current machines which belong to the Group 3 category transmit an A4 page in about 20 seconds. Group 4, which operates only on BT's proposed digital telephone lines, will take about five seconds and produce clearer copies. At the moment, the quality of the copy can be affected by interference on the telephone line. Within the next 18 months, Canon is launching an error correction machine which will re-send whichever parts of a document have been affected. The future for fax is faster, clearer and, doubtless, cheaper.

Already there are confidential fax machines which store received material until the correct personal identification number is entered. While it is not yet possible to send cheques by fax, faxed documents can be legally binding if both parties agree in advance that they should be.

Fax machines have overtaken sales of telex and are hitting both post and courier services - hardly surprising when the job can be done by fax for between 15 and 20 pence in a fraction of the time.

WHAT THE LATEST MACHINES CAN DO

The latest portable fax machines come with a variety of features including automatic document feed (ADF), automatic dialling at the touch of one key, automatic re-dialling when telephone numbers are engaged, white line skip, which stops the machine transmitting blank spaces from the original document, and fallback, which slows down the machine during a poor connection to provide a clearer image.

Canon Fax-Phone 110: £1,675. Can be used as a normal telephone. One-key dialling to 32 locations. Automatic re-dialling of engaged numbers. ADF: 5 pages.

Sharp FO-150: £1,448. Fits into a briefcase and weighs 5kg. Half-tone transmission with eight levels of shading. ADF: 10 pages.

Toshiba TF222: £1,895. Incorporates a 16-level grey scale, making reproduction of photographs and graphs very clear. ADF: 10 pages.

Panafax UF-150: £1,695. One-touch dialling for 23 stations and

two digit dialling for 47 more. Programmable automatic transmission. Weighs 6kg. ADF: 5 pages.

Nefax 10: £1,695. Automatic transmission and automatic contrast adjustment. Weighs 6kg. ADF: 5 pages.

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES Nefax 14: £2,445. 100 number abbreviated dialling. Built-in timer for automatic transmission. Automatic re-dialling of engaged numbers. B4 size transmission with automatic reduction to size of receiving machine's paper. ADF: 10 pages.

Panafax UF-600 SF: £2,800 (15-page memory) or £3,400 (60-page memory). 100 number abbreviated dialling. Multi-station transmission of 15 (or 40) pages. Auto-fax function. 12-second transmission. ADF: Max 30 sheets.

Toshiba TF341: £3,195. Automatic dialling and document feed, delayed transmission and multi-addressing.

Canon Fax-230: £2,025. Abbreviated dialling for 60 locations. Half-tone mode with 16 shades of grey. Automatic timer and automatic re-dialling. Timer multi-polling collects information from fax machines at 21 locations. ADF: 10 sheets.

Canon Fax-730: £3,900. Stores documents from 32 locations in its memory for sending at various preset times. Security code access. Memory stores up to 125 pages of information. A4 documents transmitted in 12 seconds. Half-tone mode with 16 shades of grey. ADF: 30 sheets. Panafax UF-640: £3,795 (60-page memory) or £3,995 (120-memory). Can send A3 size documents.

which are automatically reduced to size of receiving machine's paper. ADF: 50 sheets. Nefax 25: £4,495. 16 MBIT memory facilitates serial broadcasts to 200 destinations and relay broadcasts to 4,000 locations. 9-second transmission. 16 sheet half-tone. 288 number standard directory. ADF: 50 sheets.

Nicole Swengley

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OUT AND ABOUT

Seat of Jacobean power

Nigel Andrew visits Hatfield House, damaged by fire this week but still open

Queen Elizabeth called him 'my little elf' Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, was sickly, almost dwarfish, with a deformed back and big melancholy eyes.

As you approach the house today, it looms above you, a cliff of Jacobean brickwork with tall rectangular windows staring out.

In fact he never did: in his time the front door was on the other side, where between the two turreted wings runs an elegantly splendid stone colonnade.

Once inside, though, all is splendour and delight - the lustre of old wood polished for centuries, the dull giant of gold leaf on an ornate ceiling, the coolness of marble, the faded comfort of tapestries.

This is the house that has two of the great likenesses of Elizabeth - the 'Ermine Portrait' by Nicholas Hilliard, and the extraordinary 'Rainbow Portrait', which shows the almost 70-year-old Queen as a young Diana.

James I does even better: his life-size statue, crown and all, stands rather incongruously on the



Eight million bricks in place: Hatfield House, built by James I's chief minister Robert Cecil, and restored to political prominence by his namesake, Victoria's Prime Minister

mantelpiece of the drawing room his chief minister built for him.

More even than with most stately homes, the portraits at Hatfield tell the family's stories. One of the most remarkable shows the ninnish 4th Earl striking a grand pose while the Duke of Monmouth apparently breathes down his neck.

The Cecil family is unusual in having twice risen to great national prominence. Its second heyday, culminating in the triumphant political career of the 3rd Marquess - three times Prime Minister under Victoria - left its mark on

Hatfield in the form of handsome restoration work and abundant mementoes of the great and good - especially the Duke of Wellington, who was a frequent visitor.

The library - still properly book-lined, still in use - was for many years an intellectual and political nerve centre. With a little imagination, you can almost smell the lingering cigar smoke.

The opulent atmosphere of the house today owes much to the revival of the family's fortunes, and no doubt to the fact that they continue to live here. But it is still the great Jacobean mansion par excellence, with its magnificent Great Hall (two galleries - one at either end), its 180 feet of Long Gallery, and a Grand Staircase that lives up to its name, carved with a

fascinating profusion of little figures - a squirrel, a bird-cage, a beggiper, naked boys, heraldic lions, and so on all the way up.

One of the carvings shows a well-dressed gardener with a rake, and this is taken to be John Tradescant, who laid out the original gardens. They were sacrificed to the 'landscaping' mania of the 18th century, but for the last 100 years and more they have been successfully regaining their formal Jacobean lines.

A great surprise about Hatfield is that, close by the 'big house', one substantial wing still stands of the Old Palace which James I swapped for Robert Cecil's house at Theobalds. Cecil pulled down the

other three wings, but what remains is ruggedly impressive, with a marvellous roof of oak and chestnut.

Both Elizabeth and her sister Mary spent much of their childhood in this old palace, and it was while sitting under an oak in the grounds that Elizabeth received the news of her succession. Not much remains of that oak, but there is enough to mount a little tableau at the far end of the gift shop. The model there looks even less like Elizabeth than the Rainbow Portrait.

Back in the house, in a display case, repose the Virgin Queen's gardening hat and gloves - with artificially lengthened fingers - and a pair of her silk stockings, said

to be the first ever worn in England.

Nothing so personal remains of the builder of this great house - who never lived here and who died before it was quite finished - but one image is particularly haunting. It is a curious mosaic portrait, done in Venice in 1608 and fitted into one of the grand marble chimney-pieces. This is said to have been Robert Cecil's favourite likeness, because it showed him upright, handsome and at ease. No 'little elf' at all.

Hatfield House, Herts is open daily, except Mondays (but open Bank Holiday Mondays), 12-5pm; Tues 2-5.30pm; Bank Holidays 11am-5pm. Admission £1.95, child £2.15. Open until October 9.

OUTINGS

SHOP ASSISTANCE: Hundreds of celebrities will staff shops, pubs, and restaurants in the Covent Garden area in aid of the Terrence Higgins Trust. Celebrities include Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Frank Bruno, Jonathan Ross, Bob Hoskins, George Cole, Rick Astley, Boy George, cast of EastEnders, Celebrity buskers in the piazza.

LONDON FUN DAY: 250 veteran and vintage machines set off at 10am on a 25-mile circuit of London. Then motorcycle and jet ski displays, funfair, zoo, ice skating rink, inflatables, clowns.

BRISTOL HARBOUR REGATTA: Rally of some 250 pleasure boats plus air and sea displays, ferry trips, other maritime events. Opening ceremony 1.30pm today. Bristol City Docks, Bristol, Avon. Today 1pm-8pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Free.

ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS OPEN DAY: Tank battle at 10.30am, arena displays from 2pm onwards. Stalls and exhibitions. Gallow Hill, Bowdoin, Wareham, Dorset (further information 0929 462721). Tomorrow, from 10.30am-5pm (car park open 8.30am). Adult £3, child £1.

WELSH BREWERS JAZZ FESTIVAL: Six hours of jazz in the newly erected summer house and at the lakeside. Manor, farmhouses, bakery, miners' cottages open as usual. Welsh Folk Museum, St Fagan's, Cardiff, Wales (0222 569441). Today 11am-5pm. Adult £2, child £1.

KENSINGTON KITTEN & NEUTER CAT CLUB PREMIER SHOW: Over 800 cats of all shapes, sizes, breeds. Also a large section for household RHS New Hall, Gwycoot Street, London SW1 (01-834 4333). Today 12 noon-5pm. Adult £2, child £1.

THE NORMANS AT RICHMOND: Displays of precision archery and weaponry with period musical accompaniment. Richmond Castle, Richmond, North Yorkshire (0748 2453). Performances today 2.30pm and 7.30pm, tomorrow 2.30pm only. Adult £2, child £1.

Judy Froshaug

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IN THE GARDEN Fools for a gooseberry

Francesca Greenoak sings the praises of an undervalued native fruit



Trouble-free fruit: Langley Beauty, one of the wide variety of easily-tended gooseberries

My children were not, I can personally testify, found under a gooseberry bush, but during this part of the summer this is where they are most often to be discovered, braving the prickles to gain the luscious, ripe crop.

The longer I grow fruit, the more convinced I am that gooseberries give exceptional value. Year after year, with very little tending, they produce regular and heavy crops, even in cool grey summers.

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vents insipidity. You can keep picking the well-laden bushes until a mid-summer kind such as Red Champagne turns to its ripe crimson. This variety produces quantities of rather small but exquisite, spicy sweet berries.

possible, with the minimum of pruning, which may last 20 years or more. Seedlings quite often appear so gardeners with an experimental turn of mind can try raising their own varieties.

WEEKEND TIPS

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EATING OUT One man's dog meat

The most prized meat in Korea is that of a dog which is hung by its hind legs and beaten with sticks, so that in its terminal fright it produces adrenaline which tenderizes its meat.

With the Olympic spirit prevailing Jonathan Meades finds out what's on - and off - a Korean restaurant menu



mode called robata-yaki. But for the most part it is the delicacy and boldness of execution that suggest Japanese influence. The ground pea pancake is here something rather special: it has some affinity with polenta preparations and is worth negotiating the rubbish-strewn streets of South Soho for...

Now before you plan to chain yourselves to the Korean Embassy or put something nasty through its letterbox, it is as well to recall that our sentimentality towards animals is selective and that pigs, pigeons and pike probably don't much like the ways in which they're murdered for our delectation. If we eat sheep, why should we not eat dogs? It would certainly be a practical means of solving the annual holiday season abundance of abandoned pets.

cheap costume epic - they're repro Georgian. The music that seeps incessantly from hidden speakers comprises Korean favourites like the EastEnders theme re-interpreted by Richard Clayderman, or some virtuoso of that ilk. The repertoire of flavourings used in the Korean kitchen is not large: garlic, chilli and sesame figure individually or in combination in most dishes.

It's hard to imagine that, dogs or no dogs, Korean restaurants will ever attain the occasional popularity that Japanese ones enjoy. Trying to explain to a tyro the greatness of Japanese cooking by referring to Ryoma would, however, be an uphill struggle. There's nothing actually amiss with this new place, in a scruffy back street near Tottenham Court Road station, that a re-fig of the menu wouldn't cure the impression of having been deliberately contrived to represent only the most timid and unenterprising middlebrow elements of its country's cooking...

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## THE ARTS

Paul Griffiths reports from Bayreuth on an improving new *Ring* cycle and John Higgins sees signs of innovation at the Macerata Festival

## Much better

The second instalment has lifted the new *Ring* onto another plane, and onto another plain: the action takes place on an immense runway, in a grey gloom lit from the sides and appearing, thanks to a trick of perspective, to carry back 100 yards or so. On this great platform everything happens, except for the last scene, for which a section rises to form the roof, and for the Valkyries' Ride an illuminated stairway descends. When the long space is unbroken Harry Kupfer is able to manage some breathtaking entrances and exits: Siegmund running forward, wild and stumbling in the stage lightning; Siegmund and Sieglinde then tearing off at the end of that act, and again falling, because she wants consummation before vengeance; Wotan raging off in great circling movements, swinging his spear and banging it on the ground.

Within this set, and with Daniel Barenboim's often hectic speeds (the Annunciation of Death is an exception, being extreme in the other direction), one becomes very aware of how much of this opera takes place in an atmosphere of panic. But Kupfer reminds us also that it is a work of duologues perhaps without equal, excepting only *Tristan*, until Beckett. These eyes of the surrounding storms are quietly and intimately directed, but with an authority to demand attention.

The attraction and the affection between Siegmund and Sieglinde, for instance, is undeniable. In the long interlude before Hunding's arrival, Siegmund is already clasping his sister in his arms, and when they move towards full recognition of each other, they become as children again, kneeling on the floor, ripping off their

## OPERA

## Die Walküre Bayreuth

beadear to reveal the unmistakable sign of their sibling relationship in cascades of red hair.

The Siegmund-Hunding relationship is similarly strong. Sitting at opposite ends of a rather unfortunately sub-Bauhaus table, they evidently begin to recognize the truth almost from the start of Siegmund's narration. Mathias Hölle is the Hunding, using all the colour of his Falset voice to the ends now of dumb suspicion; he has the gait, also, of a blunt, unimaginative man, his riding boots slapping the floor in weighty regular steps.

But the key relationships are those concerning Wotan, whom John Tomlinson now makes a man in his prime, charging about the stage, singing from full strength throughout this long part, pulling every word into shape, thoroughly involved: he acts a quite different figure from the withdrawn Wotan of *Rheingold*.

With Brünnhilde he is very much the father, romping on the ground with her when they first meet, far more disappointed than angered by her disobedience (they sit for a long time looking away from each other), then rapturous in forgiveness: the swelling music before his farewell is curiously but convincingly used for a gesture in which they join hands and fall prostrate together.

Deborah Polaski provides a young and ardent Brünnhilde, singing with ready attack, with the bravery at times to be intense but

quiet, and with a free-spirited humanity. This is a Brünnhilde who wears her hair loose, and not only to prove it is red.

The Wotan-Fricka scene is also closely and sensitively directed, and excellently sung. Linda Finnie rises superbly to the occasion with some fierce, steely intrusiveness in the later moves of her chest-mate, but then with surprising, appropriate warmth as she takes her husband back in her arms.

Wotan is cornered by her almost from the start: the playfulness with Brünnhilde was only a distraction. He makes his last move with a thrust-out hand shaking on the word "need", but the realization of doom was in his singing from the first, and when he voices it, in his cry "das Ende!", the stage silently responds as a hole falls open in the centre.

The great strength of Tomlinson's singing is to present a god of lapsed sovereignty: Fricka and Brünnhilde can each wrestle with him for the spear, and his only strength throughout this long part, pulling every word into shape, thoroughly involved: he acts a quite different figure from the withdrawn Wotan of *Rheingold*.

The magnificent cast also includes, in Nadine Secunde, a Sieglinde who conveys frailty of nature with great power and consistent loveliness of voice and in Peter Hofmann a seasoned Siegmund, who looks the part and still has strength in his singing.

In the staging there are a couple of problems: the shrouded groups of plastic ghosts at the start of the last act looked false, and the magic fire needs to have its technology made invisible. But this *Ring* is scenically now clearly on track.



King by default: Tubby, bearded John Rawnsley as Verdi's Macbeth

## In transit

## Macbeth Macerata Festival

Macerata - go far down Italy's Adriatic Coast and then turn a little inland - began as a festival of popular opera. For most of its 24 seasons it has stayed the same, filling its open-air arena with the corner-stones of the Italian and French repertory. Most of the big names, especially tenors, have passed this way, but, under the joint directorship of Marcello Abbado and Giancarlo Del Monaco, things are changing a little.

The stars will still come: next year promises a *Faust* with Ricciardi, Aratz and Ramey, but, in addition to the open-air stage, Macerata will use an 800R theatre, long closed, as a Mozart house, starting with *Don Giovanni*; and in the meantime the 1988 Festival has opened with Verdi's *Macbeth*, by southern Italian standards an unpopular work.

One of the reasons for choosing *Macbeth*, surely, was to give the British baritone John Rawnsley, something of a local hero, proof that there is life for him in Verdi beyond *Rigoletto*. Another must have been the availability of Giorgio Albertazzi, probably Italy's leading Shakespearean actor, to do the staging.

Albertazzi certainly does not lack ideas in how to use Macerata's massively wide stage: concentrate much of the action in a central circular space, flexible enough to be anything from the *Macbeth* love-nest to the witches' cavern, flanked by a double staircase. The choral passages - with local forces in notable form - were arranged formally in tiered ranks up the stage.

Rather less impressive was the deployment of the witches who,

Albertazzi implies, hold the Macbeths in their thrall throughout. No midnight hags (these, but instead a series of Rita Hayworth lookalikes, in white chiffon, apart from one who is bearded: why?)

They are omnipresent. Verdi certainly wrote some jaunty music for the witches, just as he composed an almost Offenbachian final chorus for the supporters of Macbeth, but it is a mistake to reflect this on stage. To sap *Macbeth* of its sinister elements creates a fatal flaw and the supernatural in this opera is not to be sneered at.

John Rawnsley's *Macbeth*, tubby and bearded, silvering hair slicked back, is a bourgeois who has become king by default as well as by his own hand. He seemed unwilling to use too much voice in the first half and came into his own only later, when *Macbeth* is on the slide. Rawnsley is adept at portraying those who know that fortune has turned against them and his high baritone sits excellently for "Pieta, rispetta, amore".

By giving the Macbeths an alcove with something resembling a water bed - not very negotiable when there is murder to be done - and reflecting mirrors, Albertazzi clearly wanted to strike some sexual sparks between baritone and soprano. But they did not come. Mara Zampieri's Lady *Macbeth* was cool and remote, vocally clear and accurate but distinctly patronizing towards her consort. Ambition and madness were absent.

The greatest applause went to the conductor Jan Latham Koenig, although I found his pacing of the score dangerously slow. Further performances of *Macbeth*, which plays in repertoire with *Carmen* and *Tosca*, are on August 4 and 11.

DEE CORWAY

## THEATRE

## Blood Brothers Albery

In 1983 this ineffably sentimental musical won four awards for being best of the year here. Here it comes again, book, lyrics and music all by Willy Russell, harping on about Fate and Class, and telling the sob story of the Johnstone twins.

Once upon a time, in a very big town called Liverpool, there lived a poor woman who had seven children. She was only 25 but used to say she looked 42, though this was just her funny way of talking because 30 years later, when her story ends, she looks no older than she did at the beginning. She is played by Kiki Dee.

When her eighth and ninth child are born a horrible old witch, who lives in a land called the Middle Classes, persuades her to part with one babe. So lucky Eddie (Robert

Locke) grows up to have creases in his grey shorts and a parting in his hair.

But poor old Mickey (Con O'Neill): his school is boring and he never learns the right words to tell Linda he loves her. The brothers keep meeting, in spite of everything the real mother and the false mother do to prevent it. Fate, you see.

Eddie goes to university and becomes a city councillor at 25, while Mickey becomes terminally dismal and finally takes a shooter to his old chum, and we have caught up with the sombre beginning of the show.

The music is on the doleful side, amplified so that all songs sound equally loud. A portentous Narrator prowls the stage and finally identifies the unjustness of Fate with the English class system. I am bound to record that at the final curtain the stalle rose and gave vent to grateful cheers that could still be heard as I fled shuddering to the Underground.

Jeremy Kingston

## Modern manner

## DANCE

## Australian Ballet Covent Garden

Glen Tetley's *Orpheus* starts with a universally familiar plot, a marvellous Stravinsky score and one of the most beautiful decors Nadine Baylis has ever created: skeletal silver trees set against a black cloth in shades of grey, which tears open to reveal the mouth of Hades.

Add a cast of gifted dancers led by David Ashmore as Orpheus, and the result should be something special. Unfortunately it was not. The choreography served neither plot nor mood, and although sometimes beautiful to look at, it lay like decoration on top of the subject.



Touching his toes: Steven Woodgate of Australian Ballet in Graeme Murphy's 1986 work *Beyond Twelve*

Baylis's decor won a round of applause as the curtain rose and so did John F. MacFarlane's *Forgotten Land*: a stormy sea, waves breaking on the shore, and dark clouds looming.

Jiri Kylian's ballet begins with

six couples silhouetted against the sea and continues with a series of stunningly inventive duets danced to Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem*. Moving at breathtaking speed, the dancers bring out the passion, grief and anguish in Kylian's

choreography, and make light of its difficulties. The three leading couples are outstanding. For Kylian's ballet and their performances alone, this programme would be worth seeing.

Judith Cruickshank

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## TELEVISION

## Sick as a parrot?

What is it with BBC Scotland and funerals? *Tutti Frutti* found it funny that a bunch of Glaswegians should reform a rock 'n' roll group with the departed's brother-creepers being filled by the prodigal exile; *Playing For Real* (BBC1) takes the same view of a Subbuteo team in Falkirk.

The fact that in this instance the replacement player should be the dead man's daughter keeps the shimmering antagonism on the front burner, but there is precious little fuel behind it.

The fattest free commercial that television drama has ever awarded a boardgame runs on the supposedly ridiculous idea of grown men dedicating their lives to a scrap of baize dotted with plastic midgets, and (by extension) the silliness of such triviality inflating the amour propre of the rival teams. Since the dead captain was unemployed, one sniffs a subtextual rat; and since last night's opener was scripted by Julie Welch, sometime author of acute and breezy football reports in the *Observer*, the female alone in a male bastion takes on a muted resonance.

*Playing For Real* has no idea how to put itself across. Stiff dialogue and non-naturalistic acting are par for the course, but they exist in a vacuum and the sporadic outbursts of violence have no counterweight of verbal deftness.

The natural violence of *The Yellow River* (BBC2) has been a constant visual treat these five weeks past. Last night it was matched by pugnacious efforts to bomb the choking ice and the dynamite the submerged boulders in order to improve navigability. Infrequent but prodigious rains erode the largest loess plateaus in the world and the ensuing silt renders damming hazardous.

Stephen Jessel's voice-over is a model of informative clarity. He knows when to lay on the statistics and when to let the pictures do the talking - an increasingly rare courtesy in the field of exotic documentary.

Martin Cropper

## Satisfying restoration

## PROMENADE CONCERTS

## BBCPO/Klee Albert Hall/Radio 3

In Thursday night's *From the BBC* Philharmonic Orchestra played the symphony magnificently under the committed direction of Bernhard Klee. Difficult and unjust though it is to single out only a few of the fine qualities on show, among them were the solidity and unanimity of the strings, even in those tricky, whispering glissandos; the overwhelming brass at the louder climaxes; and the superb, distinctive yet well blended woodwind section which has become a hallmark of this band at its best.

The singers were also in top form. Anne Evans gave "Mutter, der junge Prinz" and "Sprich zu mir, Geliebter" radiantly, both movements garnished exquisitely with Dennis Simon's violin solos, while David Wilson-Johnson bestrode some formidable demands with mastery expressivity, creating, for instance, a wondrous sense of timelessness in the last song, "Friede, mein Herz". From the relaxed warmth of Schubert's "Unfinished", *Symphony* and Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* earlier, however, it had already been apparent that we were destined for a deeply satisfying evening.

Stephen Pettitt

## Powerful poetic polyphony

## BBC Northern Singers/Wilkinson St Paul's, Knightsbridge

English choral music is a relatively familiar field; we have all at some time encountered classics of the Anglican Choral Repertoire, if only as the background to a state ceremony. Transience - mortality and the passing of the visionary moment - emerged as the dominant theme here, but as a programme it was anything but momentous.

The variety of moods - but, more strikingly, style - ensured that the sequence held the attention. The five Parry motets, all from the collection "Songs of Farewell", satisfyingly interspersed with pieces by Tippett, Holst, Vaughan Williams, and

Britten. I found myself unable to share the programme-note writer's enthusiasm for the Parry pieces, however admirable their craft. "Lord, let me know mind end" and "At the round earth's imagined corners" yielded moments of imagination and poignant expression, but in comparison with the superb concentration of Holst's "The evening watch", Parry's utterance seems diffuse. Under the direction of Stephen

Wilkinson, the BBC Northern Singers displayed great technical strength and interpretative power throughout their recital. The high sustained "blue" in Stanford's "The bluebird" might have been truer, but there were no other significant problems; the tortuous harmonic twists and turns of Tippett's "Plebs Anglicana" and the intonational challenges of the Holst were surmounted with complete assurance. The final item, Herbert Howells's "The summer is coming" found them at their best: authoritative, accurate and poetic.

Stephen Johnson

## CONCERT

## Martin Best Ensemble Queen Elizabeth Hall

style of projection. Unfortunately, that often entails conveying only the simpler emotions and ignoring the subtler ones. Best's tendency to sing and speak at nothing less than a forte does not help, and neither here did the bland manner of his female singers, Donna Dean and Kristine Szulik. When Lucy Skeaping, whose

role in proceedings was rather that of a Jill of All Trades, joined them in the three voice conductus, *Ave virgo* (what was that doing in an otherwise secular programme anyway?), the result was painfully

Another problem was that in assembling a show rather than a concert Best took us from spoken translation to spoken original (recited by himself, the versatile Skeaping and Martin Jenkins) to sung original, and from piece to piece, without pause. Had the accompanying texts been complete and consistent, our difficulties would have been less.

S. P.

REVIEW

# Poetry with pimples

PAPERBACKS

First Lines, edited and introduced by Jon Stallworthy (Oxford, £4.95)

"Whoever in middle age attempts to realize the hopes and wishes of his early youth, invariably deceives himself," wrote Goethe. "Every decade of a man's life has its own fortunes, its own hopes, its own desires." And, if the man is a poet — he might have added — its own poetry.

In *First Lines* Jon Stallworthy has given us a remarkable, valuable anthology of those early imaginative efforts which posterity, un-mindful of Goethe's words, brands with the term "juventilia". This criterion, used to select the 58 poems collected here, affords as fine a glimpse of the landscape of English prosody over the last three centuries as would any other organizing principle. Yet in addition it allows the anthologist to uncover the fortunes, hopes and desires of those forgotten decades in the lives of poets, the "early years" often glossed over in their biographies or edited out of their collected works. This is what makes this book original and enduring, qualities that its original publisher, Michael Schmidt of Carcanet Press, was discerning enough to recognize.

"Nor else the primrose, wet with early dew, / Closes her bosom from approaching night", Walter Savage

Landor, aged 14. "Helen, thy beauty is to me / Like those Nemean banks of yore", Edgar Allan Poe, aged 15. "Why lift the veil, dividing / The brilliant courts of spring / In fairy colouring —", Alfred Tennyson, aged 17. "The worm doth woo the mortal, death claims a living bride / Night unto day is married, morn unto evening", Emily Dickinson, aged 19. No, these are not the lucky entries in the First International Mount Olympus Children's Verse Competition. Precise and confident, they are the work of hands which, to quote Novalis's definition of poetry, can heal the wounds inflicted by reason. Or as George Herbert, addressing God, saw it at 16:

*Open the bones, and you shall  
nothing find  
In the best face but filth; when,  
Lord, in Thee  
The beauty lies in the discovery*

In his introduction the editor recalls young Mozart, the parallel could be developed further. It often seems that, in its baroque and classical youthful phases, the European musical tradition was quite incapable of producing anything but: it was not until the romantic composers began their assault on the human soul that the bad took its place beside the sublime. Within the scope of this analogy it may be held that no poem in this book is



NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week.

FICTION

*Deserted Cities of the Heart*, by Lewis Shiner (Abacus, £3.95) *Hipsler* thriller set in Mexico; drop-out rock star, sacred mushrooms, CIA-private army, politics, and nuclear angst.

*Dreams of Sleep*, by Josephine Humphreys (Fleming, £3.95) *American domestic love-and-despair drama*, with teenage girl, *Lise et machins*, winner of the Hemingway Award in 1985.

*The Education of Hyman Kaplan*, by Leo Rosten (Penguin, £3.95) *Hilarious New York parables and short stories* written in Yiddish.

*The Ice is Singing*, by Jane Rogers (Faber, £3.95) *Episode of an Englishwoman on the run from her husband, her children, and herself*, who begins to write to keep her own life at bay.

*The Radiant Way*, by Margaret Drabble (Penguin, £3.95) *Intelligent and humane big novel about the war* we are now in Britain, which starts with three middle-aged bluesockings who were up at Cambridge together, facing up to the Eighties.

NON-FICTION

*Germany and the Germans*, by John Ardagh (Penguin, £5.95) *Readable, objective, and lively survey of the complexities of a divided nation* by the man who did the definitive on France.

*In the Land of Oz*, by Howard Jacobson (Penguin, £4.95) *Very funny account of travels in the private parts* Down Under.

*The Bonus of Laughter*, by Alan Pryce-Jones (Harnish Hamilton, £5.95) *Stylish memoirs of eminent literary journalist*.

*The Return of a Native Reporter*, by Robert Chesstyre (Penguin, £4.95) *The Observer's Washington correspondent comes home after four years*, sets out to rediscover his native country and its people, and finds not a lot for our comfort.

*Worlds Apart*, by Gavin Young (Penguin, £4.95) *Collected travels in war and peace* by a born raconteur and traveller.

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

## Brick stalling

Leeds City councillors are getting cold feet over an Arts Council-backed plan to erect a 120-foot brick man next to the city centre. Two warring Anthony Gormley sculptures in a plot of derelict land, city planners have again put off granting planning permission. Costing £500,000 of private money, the brick man would be the largest public sculpture in Britain. Now Arts Council secretary general Luke Ritter has written angrily expressing his "concern" over the latest deferral. Councillor Brian Walker, Leeds planning chairman, admits "It's getting very warm up this end and I don't mean the weather. The city is divided between those who love it and those who can't stand it and those who can't stand the thing — everything else would be dwarfed by it. The town hall, for one."

## School's out

Roger de Grey, President of the Royal Academy and principal of the City & Guilds of London Art School, where Glyn Warren Philpot and Arthur Rackham studied and Lutyens taught, will be facing



De Grey and Lutyens

empty classrooms when term starts. The Inner London Education Authority has decided to axe discretionary grants to students of the City & Guilds — leaving at least a quarter of its students unable to afford their courses. De Grey feels so strongly about the school, which offers unique courses in restoration, carving and gilding, that he is even toying with asking businesses to sponsor individual students.

## Deep water

After the drive-in, the float-by cinema came to New York this week. Until the middle of August New Yorkers are being invited to the waterfront to view films projected on a 30-foot screen on board a barge. The free screenings are of movies featuring Manhattan or water themes. *Desperately Seeking Susan*, with several scenes in Battery Park, was shown near the park, while *West Side Story* was shown near the fictional patch where the Sharks fought the Jets. There is no reason why we should not follow suit here. We could kick off on the Thames with *Waterloo Bridge* and *The Long Good Friday*.

Ten thousand pounds doesn't buy much these days. That's the sum the Museums and Galleries Commission contributed to this week's magisterial Policy Studies Institute report on the economics of the arts. On publication day Brian Morris, the Commission's chairman, dispatched his best man to the PSI, only for him to be told that there were no copies left.

# Sweet and sour

ROCK RECORDS

**Dwight Yoakam: Buenas Noches from a Lonely Room** (Reprise WX 193)  
**Randy Travis: Old 8x10** (Warner Bros WX 182)  
**Ofra Haza: Shaday** (Teldec WX 198)

*Buenas Noches from a Lonely Room* is the latest instalment of the hard line according to Dwight Yoakam, who shows no sign of diluting his truculent brand of New Country fundamentalism. The title track is an emotional, blood-and-guts narrative of crossed romance that finds our hero in something of a Kenny Rogers situation after his woman has "coldly... left me to suffer and cry". Amid a dolorous, twanging guitar sound of which Duane Eddy would be proud, the song reaches its inevitable denouement: "I placed the gun to her head/She wore red dresses/But now she lay dead", only the tremor in Yoakam's drawing voice betraying a hint of remorse.



Relaxed: Randy Travis

guitar-picking. On "Streets of Bakersfield" Yoakam duets with his hero Buck Owens. The two voices are strikingly similar and meld together with sturdy conviction.

The relaxed, mellow tone of Randy Travis's *Old 8x10* could not come as a more striking contrast. Travis, who is far more commercially successful than Yoakam, takes Hank Williams Sr as his role model and tends to sing idealized love songs in unflinchingly courteous, old-fashioned tones. "My love is purer than the snowflakes/That fall in late December" he sings in "Deeper than the Holler", while acoustic guitar and lightly brushed drums etch a delicate musical backdrop.

JAZZ RECORDS

**Wynton Marsalis: Live at Blues Alley** (CBS 461109, 2 discs)  
**Dusko Goykovich: Celebration** (Hot House HH1003)  
**Nathan Davis: London by Night** (Hot House HH1004)

While these two enjoyable albums encompass the sweet and sour of modern country music styles, neither of them is offering anything new. The Israeli singer Ofra Haza, however, made a striking innovation earlier this year when she steered her electro-hip hop arrangement of a Yemenite folk song, "Im Nin'alu", into the upper reaches of the UK chart. The song is included on her album *Shaday*, together with the follow-up, "Galbi", another intriguing concoction.

Unfortunately the freshness of the approach does not extend to the rest of the numbers, most of which are more deliberate crossover plays. The rhythm track of "Da'ale Da'ale" sounds as though it was borrowed from a Depeche Mode song. When she goes the whole way and bends her extraordinarily beguiling voice in the service of westernized ballads like "Eshal" and "Face to Face" the material begins to sound like piped music in the lifts at the Tel Aviv Hilton.

# History men

CLASSICAL RECORDS

**Brahms: 21 Lieder** Shirai/Holl (Capriccio CD 10 204)  
**Wolff: Frühe Lieder** Fischer-Dieskau/Holl (Claves LP D 8706)

The best way to enjoy Mitsuko Shirai's Brahms is late at night, with a glass of a favourite liqueur. Her recital is planned not to make any chronological or musicological points, but simply to glory in the voice and in Brahms's writing for it.

# Late songs

It is Heine who fires Fischer-Dieskau in later life. The 16 poems set by Hugo Wolf in his youth are seized upon with a typically keen ear for their early flickers of psychological insight and this stage in Fischer-Dieskau's own vocal life is just the time for them. There is a new light directness which enables the voice to bounce off the ironic merriment of a song like "Aus meinem anger? Schmerzen".

## BRIDGE

### Right on cue

For many years the Italian Blue team seemed invincible. But to the astonishment of lesser mortals, these great players frequently suffered the indignity of bidding slams missing two cashable Aces. Surely Blackwood would have saved the day? Perhaps, but the Italians preferred to rely on cue bidding, using Four No Trumps in a different sense.

**West deals:**

10	30
4(1)	4(1)
3(1)	5(1)
5(1)	5(1)

(1) Cue bids.  
(2) East's bid to cue bid diamonds. West has no diamonds.  
(3) West has no spades.  
(4) No, thank you.

## CHESS

### Howler from Spassky

The celebrated former world champion, Boris Spassky, has until very recently been experiencing a revival of his fortunes.

**1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5**  
**3 Nc3 dxc4 4 Nxc4**

This variation of the Caro-Kann has steadily become Karpov's favourite defence against the King's pawn opening. Spassky employs the fashionable reply.

**5 Ng5 Nd6 6 Bc4 Nc5 7 Nf3 g6 8 B-f7 Bg7 9 Rf1 Ng6 10 Ne4 Bg4**

Spassky's next move appears designed merely to prevent possible Black expansion, based on the thrust ...d5. But, as we shall see, there is a deeper purpose to the advance of White's "a" pawn.

**11 e4 Ng6 12 Nxf6 Bxf6**

The Black position is evidently uncomfortable. Karpov is under pressure and his next move forfeits the right to castle in order to consolidate his lines of defence.

**13 Ra3 Kf8 14 b3 Bxf3**

Spasky acquires a further trump, the pair of Bishops, potentially a formidable weapon, especially when allied with his greater control of the centre.

**15 Rxf3 Kg7 16 c3 Qd7 17 Qd3 Rfd8 18 Rd3 Qc8 19 b4 Rf5 20 Rg3 Rf5**

## CROSSWORD

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, August 4. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London E19 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, August 6.

**CONCISE NO 1629**

ACROSS: 1 Feeling of pity (6)  
2 Fascinate (5)  
3 Meadow (3)  
4 Sedimentary rock layers (6)  
5 Light drama (6)  
6 Moonlight Boat (4)  
7 Begin (3)  
8 Grumble (6)  
9 Elaborate clothing (6)  
10 Fuse (join) (8)  
11 Bring up (4)  
12 Switchable rail junction (6)  
13 Picnic basket (6)  
14 Anger (3)  
15 Hundreds of countless (3)  
24 Feet bitter at (6)

DOWN: 1 Swallows and Amazons author (6)  
2 Made to withstand hard wear (5-4)  
3 Service (7)  
4 Frisky desert (5)  
5 Silents (3)  
6 Intention (3)  
7 Mare internum (13)  
8 Fool (9)  
15 First year college student (7)  
17 Ferrule desert patch (5)  
20 And not (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1623 (last Saturday's puzzle)  
ACROSS: 1 Absorb 5 Album 8 Ens 9 Cirrus 10 Dotard 11 Whip 12 Uncommon 14 Shield 15 Regress 16 Calypso 18 Dale 19 Cavort 23 Ennuch 24 Cow 25 Aftab 26 Squeez 27 Slant 28 Rude 30 Sift  
DOWN: 1 British Guinea 2 Sausage 3 4 Ransom 5 Akrab 6 Birt 7 Marrons glacés 13 Macintosh 15 Restless 17 Birch 20 Oil

## Arty Forte

A new exhibition of theatre costume and set designs reveals that not all the Forte family has its ambitions set on taking over the Savoy. Donato Forte, relative of Rocco and Lord Forte, just wants us to buy his pictures. Donato started professional life as a ballet dancer but injured his knee and took up painting. His work is better known than one thinks: thanks to another cousin, Olga Polizzi (who is i/c hotel decorations), it hangs in many a Trusthouse Forte hotel. It has also recently been displayed in the Royal Opera House (Olga's a trustee), which took 25 per cent sales commission. A selection of his designs are being displayed alongside others by Noel Coward, Ronald Serfaty and Irene Sharaff at Galleria Fine Arts in St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex.

## Job lot

After the fuss in April when the successful candidate turned down the job because it paid only £27,000, the Arts Council is shortly to name its new music director. Among the five candidates the head hunters found was none other than Michael de Grey, who, as I reported last week, has just left his administrator's job at the troubled London Sinfonietta. I am told that by a stroke of luck, de Grey missed the embarrassment of being interviewed by his old boss, Sir George Christie, chairman of both the council's music advisory panel and the Sinfonietta.

Andrew Billen

Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

THE WEEK AHEAD



CONCERTS

PANTHEISTIC PAGES: Delius's 100-minute, 11-movement Mass of Life receives a rare performance tomorrow when Sir Charles Groves conducts massed vocal and instrumental forces.



CINEMA

OUTSIDE INFLUENCE: Nicolas Roeg joins forces with writer Dennis Potter in Track 29 (15), a prickly psychological drama about a bored housewife in North Carolina.



DANCE

VITAL SIGNS: Arthur Mitchell was New York City Ballet's first black star. He gave up dancing to found Dance Theatre of Harlem.



BOOKS

DEEP WATER: Heathcote Williams's meditation on the condition of the Leviathan surfaces from the deep this week. Whale Nation is published on Monday.



GALLERIES

SATANIC HILLS: Michael Porter is among a group of impressive younger English artists whose mysterious landscape paintings verge on abstraction.



THEATRE

FRY RING: Christopher Fry's adaptation of Jean Anouilh's poetic play Ring Round the Moon opens at Chichester this week.

THEATRE LONDON

THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON: Rex Harrison, Edward Fox, Margaret Courtenay, Niamh Cusack lead the cast of J.M. Barrie's role-reversal comedy, directed by Frith Banbury.

JAZZ

BUXTON JAZZ WEEKEND: Marching bands, Roy Williams and Dick Morrissey today. Mike Westbrook's Westbrook-Rossini tomorrow.

TELEVISION

ARMADA: Three-part documentary series which attempts to re-interpret the events of 1588 in the light of modern historical research.

FILMS ON TV

PRIVATE BENJAMIN (1980): Goldie Hawn as producer and star of a madcap romantic comedy about a wealthy Jewish widow who joins the army to get away from her suffocating parents.

RADIO

THE LIFE OF RYLANDS: George Rylands, Shakespeare scholar and founder of the Cambridge Arts Theatre, reflects at the age of 87 on literary acquaintances from Lytton Strachey to Thomas Hardy.

ROCK

24TH CAMBRIDGE FOLK FESTIVAL: Featuring Nick Lowe, the Blues Band, Christy Moore, 10,000 Maniacs, Tom Robinson, the Oyster Band, John Hammond, David Rudder & Charles Roots.

LAST CHANCE

THREE ROMANTICS AT BLACKHEATH: Festival inspired by Lindsay String Quartet, featuring music of Mendelssohn, Schumann and Brahms.

OUT OF TOWN

SALISBURY: The Beggar's Opera: Promenade, audience-participation production of John Gay's classic, by London's Woolf Theatre Company.

PHOTOGRAPHY

THE ANIMAL IN PHOTOGRAPHY: Fascinating show depicting man's preoccupation with animals. Great fun.

OPERA

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL: The highly-acclaimed Sendaik-designed Ravel double bill of L'Enfant et les sortilèges and L'Heure espagnole is back again at Glyndebourne.

DANCE

AUSTRALIAN BALLET: Their second and last week in London includes a double bill of Bejart's comic extravaganza Gafé Parisienne.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page SATURDAY BBC1 WALKER 6.15pm-6.30pm Sports News Wales 6.30pm-6.45pm Sports

CONCERTS

PETRI PERFORMANCES: As a contribution to "Summer in the City" Michela Petri solos in recorder concertos by Corelli, Telemann, Handel, Bach, and of course, Vivaldi.

WORD-WATCHING

QUAEDAM (b) A derogatory term for a woman, from the Latin quaedam a certain female somebody.

GALLERIES

SCULTURA: Carvings by 18 international contemporary artists, including Barry Flanagan, who have worked at the famous Italian quarries in Carrara, Massa and Pietrasanta.

FILMS

HAWKS (15): British black comedy, set in the fleshpots of Amsterdam and London, with Timothy Dalton and Anthony Edwards as two men faced with the prospect of death.

THEATRE

ELIZABETH SPRINGS: Elizabeth Spriggs (above) plays the princess who befriends the bastard son of an English nobleman.

Dazzled by the pink light



Round the world in 11 months: (from left) Nick Mason, David Gilmour and Rick Wright of Pink Floyd lighting. It's always been like that. People come to hear the music and to look at the show - which is why no one has missed Roger.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS Continued from facing page SATURDAY BBC1 WALKER 6.15pm-6.30pm Sports News Wales 6.30pm-6.45pm Sports

THE SELF PORTRAIT

Works by 60 contemporary artists from sculptors Paolozzi and Glynn

DIRTBAG

(b) A despicable person. Filthy lot of, crud and scum in American slang: "Why don't you throw this dirtbag in jail, deputy?"

AMBSACE

(b) Literally both ends on a pair of dice, from the Latin ambo both - as the one at dice, old snake-eyes, the worst throw for crap-shooters and other American gamblers.

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SUNDAY

BBC1 WALKER 1.00pm The News 1.30pm-1.45pm News 1.50pm-2.00pm News

AMBSACE

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MARKETS		THE POUND	
FT 30 Share	1488.7 (+8.0)	US dollar	1.7110 (-0.0140)
FT-SE 100	1853.5 (+12.3)	W German mark	3.2047 (-0.0107)
USM (Datastream)	167.42 (+0.47)	Trade-weighted	76.5 (-0.3)

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

## Support for Suter chairman

The board of Suter, the industrial conglomerate, issued a statement of support for Mr David Abell, its chairman, after Thursday's announcement that Department of Trade inspectors had been appointed to investigate three companies linked to Suter.

The company said it welcomed the appointment and would co-operate to the full.

The board also "reaffirms that neither the company, nor Mr Abell, has at any time been involved in any illegal concert parties".

It was confident of the outcome which it believed would help "remove the shadow cast by recent allegations on the company's excellent performance".

The DTI will investigate share dealings in Francis Industries, now a subsidiary of Suter, and in F H Lloyd and James Neill Holdings, in which Suter took then sold stakes. In particular the DTI will investigate the existence of any undisclosed concert party arrangements.

## Corah jobs go

Corah, the knitwear group, is shedding 168 jobs at its underwear factory in Troon, Strathclyde. The company announced nearly 800 redundancies earlier this year and more slimming down will take place.

**STOCK MARKETS**

New York  
Dow Jones 2117.00 (+34.67)  
Tokyo  
Nikkei Average 27911.63 (+115.54)  
Hong Kong  
Hang Seng 2678.92 (+15.47)  
Amsterdam Gen 277.8 (+1.1)  
Sydney AO 1611.0 (+11.5)  
Frankfurt  
Commerzbank 1477.9 (+17.3)  
Bourses:

Paris 4820.6 (+17.0)  
Geneva 354.3 (+1.9)  
Zurich SIA Gen 486.9 (+1.5)  
London:

FT-A All-Share 995.18 (+5.08)  
FT-100 1055.93 (+5.3)  
FT-Gold Mines 293.8 (+0.7)  
FT-Fixed Interest 97.57 (+0.68)  
FT-Govt Secs 87.94 (-0.1)

Recent Issues Page 26  
Closing Prices Page 29

**MAIN PRICE CHANGES**

RISERS:

Amerisham 595.5p (+11p)  
A McAlpine 489p (+23p)  
Vale Group 652.5p (+14p)  
SEW Berstard 357.5p (+15p)  
GT Management 170.5p (+16p)  
Admiral Comp 170.5p (+20p)  
Trade Indemnity 482.5p (+20p)  
SW Wood 149.5p (+14p)  
Western Motor 596p (+21p)  
Midsummer 421p (+13p)  
UK Land 837.5p (+50p)  
Worcester Docks 434.5p (+32p)  
Wace 307.5p (+19p)  
Enterprise 499p (+12p)

FALLS:

Taylor Woodrow 589p (-18p)  
Shield Group 108p (-11p)  
G Oliver 629p (-30p)  
Int'l Thomson 655p (-10p)  
AGE Research 189.5p (-33p)  
Harcanger 720p (-20p)

Closing prices  
Bairings 30948

**INTEREST RATES**

London Bank Base 10 1/2%  
3-month Interbank 10 1/2%  
3-month eligible bills 10 1/2%  
Buying rate

US Prime Rate 9 1/2%  
Federal Funds 7 1/2%  
3-month Treasury Bills 6.98-6.99%  
30-year bonds 95-99 1/2

**CURRENCIES**

London:

\$: \$1.7110  
DM: 3.2047  
S: SwF2.6647  
E: FF10.7827  
Y: Yen127.47  
E: Index: 76.5  
ECU: 10.561009 SDR: 10.753729

New York:

\$: DM1.8750  
S: SwF1.5612  
E: FF9.3185  
Y: Yen133.05  
E: Index: 98.8  
SDR: 10.753729

**GOLD**

London Fixing:  
AM \$432.70 pm \$436.80  
\$235.50-\$236.00 (\$255.00-\$255.50)  
New York:  
Comex \$435.30-\$436.80

**NORTH SEA OIL**

Brent (Sep) pm \$15.65bbl (\$15.70)  
Denotes latest trading price

**THE TIMES STOCK WATCH**

0898 141 141

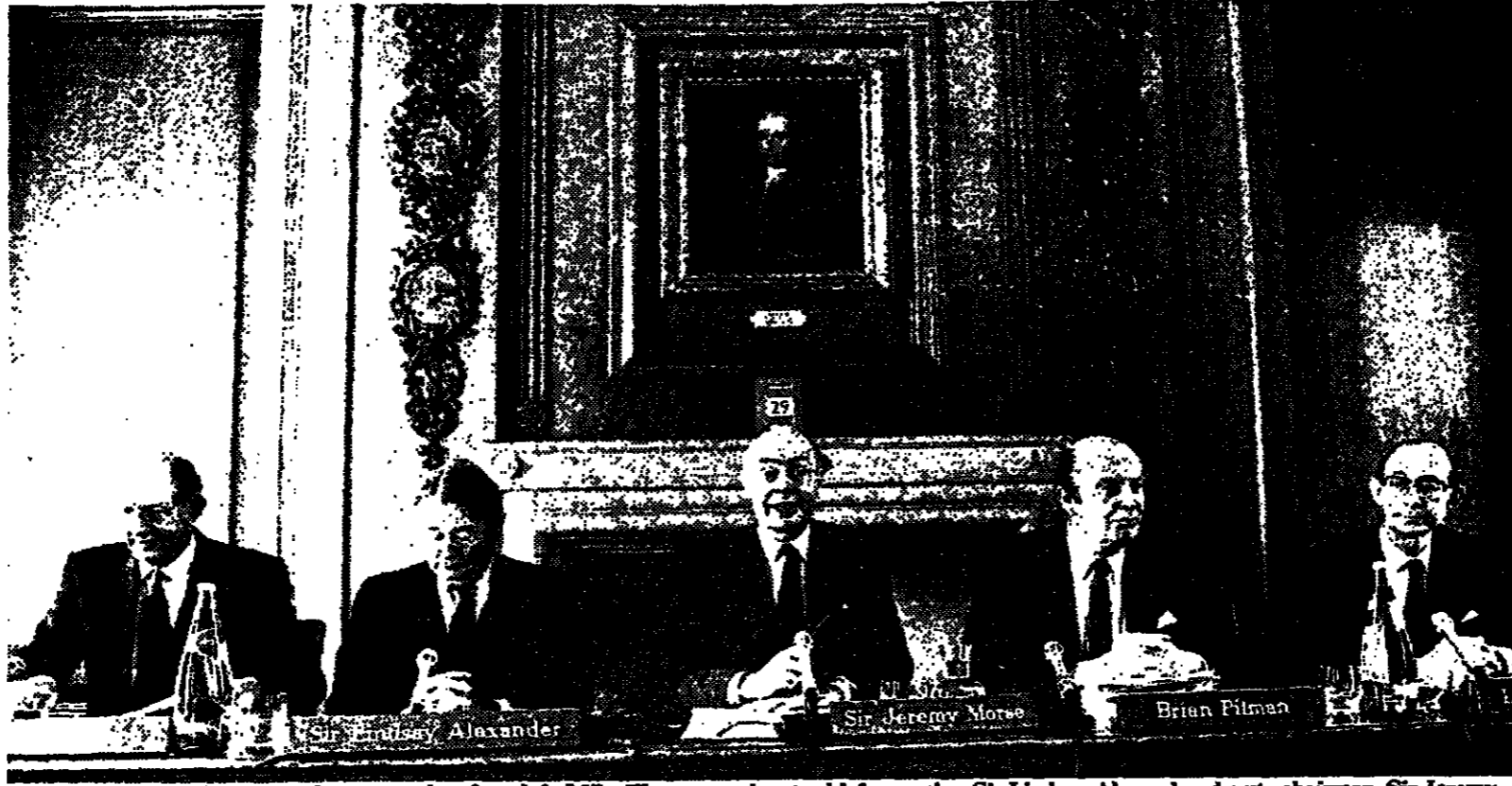
Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included:

Wace Group (01252), up 20p on doubled profits; bid hopes lifted Admiral Computing (05082) 20p and Atken Hume (01957) 5p; Amersham International (01005) continued its rise with another 3p; Goodman Group (02903) dipped 2p ahead of results.

Recent additions include: Prospective Group Referred 03379; Heritage 03381; Rockford Group 03382; Erstin Group 03383; CLF Holdings convy prof 03384.

● Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

## Bank reporting season ends with an impressive £452m



Top table: Lloyds board members yesterday, from left, Mike Thompson, deputy chief executive, Sir Lindsay Alexander, deputy chairman, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman, Brian Pitman, chief executive, and Leon Wilkinson, chief financial officer (Photograph: Graham Wood)

## Lloyds shrugs off pressure with 22% rise

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank yesterday brought some sparkle to a lacklustre clearing bank reporting season, with an impressive set of results showing a 22 per cent surge in pre-tax profits to £452 million for the half-year to June 30.

Unlike the other three main clearing banks, which reported earlier in the week, Lloyds claimed that it was unaffected by increasing competitiveness in the domestic banking market.

Sir Jeremy Morse, the chairman, said that although the British market was becoming more competitive, Lloyds' traditional banking business had not suffered. All three of the other clearing banks this week blamed their mediocre performance on more difficult home markets.

Mr Brian Pitman, the chief executive, said that while domestic profits had risen by 24 per cent compared with the first half of last year to £393 million, assets had grown by only 14 per cent. Sceptics in the City, however, pointed out that compared with the second half of last year the improvement in domestic profits was only £10 million.

Mr Pitman said that Lloyds' policy of concentrating on making maximum profits from certain sectors, rather than going for maximum growth in assets, had paid off.

The net interest margin on domestic business had remained unchanged at 5.17 per cent, while increasing computerisation had helped to reduce the cost/income ratio to 64.1 per cent.

Lloyds has also been the most successful of the banks at using profits to boost its capital adequacy ratios after the pounding they took last year from the exceptional bad debt provisions made against Third World loans. Its equity/asset ratio rose from 4.4 per cent to 5.4 per cent. Mr Pitman said that Lloyds' risk asset ratio under the new international capital requirements was now well above 9 per cent.

The overall performance was achieved even after a conservative approach to bad debt provisioning for Third World loans, including £48 million against loans to Argentina and Brazil. Lloyds said that although it had already received some £29 million of an expected £105 million in back interest from Brazil, it was not including this in its profits until the current plan to restructure the country's debts had been agreed.

Sir Jeremy said that Argentina's debt position was likely to deteriorate this year but that this would be offset by the improvement in the situation in Brazil.

The bank's profits included improved contributions from a range of subsidiary activities. The Black Horse estate agency chain jumped from £3 million to £8 million, the same as it made in the whole of last year, while insurance business produced £30 million, up £7 million.

The slimmed-down merchant bank also showed sharply better results, with a profit of £5 million after a loss of £32 million at the same time last year. The loss was the result of Lloyds' decision to pull out of securities markets, and since then the group's treasury operations have been moved out of the merchant bank.

## Beazer sale in US called off

By Michael Tate

Beazer's \$660 million (£386 million) sale of the Koppers chemical interests in Pittsburgh to a management buyout group is off.

A terse statement from Beazer, the construction group based in Bath, said it and the Koppers division's management had "mutually agreed to terminate the asset purchase agreement relating to the sale of the Koppers Chemical and Allied Products business".

Although Mr Brian Beazer, the architect of the group's emergence as a world player in the construction industry, described the breakdown as "a personal setback," he believed the eventual outcome would be favourable to the group.

He believes the operations, part of the Koppers empire finally acquired for \$1.7 billion last month at the end of a long and acrimonious takeover bid battle, will eventually fetch a bigger price.

"I have instructed our investment bankers (Shearson Lehman) to proceed with the sale of the assets as a whole or in parts," he said from his Pittsburgh office yesterday. "I suspect the eventual price will be substantially higher."

He added that he had received "many approaches" from "a wide range of international companies based in the UK, the US and the Far East," and he believed that a deal or deals could be finalized within three months. Beazer hopes it can sell the business for up to \$760 million.

Analysts were rather more sceptical, and questioned how operations valued at \$500 million at the beginning of July could be attributed two substantially different valuations within a month.

Beazer, keen to redeem part of the huge cost of the original Koppers deal at the earliest opportunity, is perceived to be an eager seller in a buyer's market.

Beazer shares slipped back from 192p to 184p, but were not thought likely to lose much more ground.

"Most of the looser holders were shaken out during the bid," said one analyst. "Only the fans are left now."

No official reason was given for the withdrawal by the US division's management, although it has expressed concern about the environmental issues.

More likely, however, is that the Koppers management, which was being assisted in a planned leveraged buyout by Sterling Group, a buyout specialist based in Houston, had problems raising the necessary finance.

The Chemical and Allied Products division is the leading US producer of coal-tar derivative products, processing more than 100 million gallons of coal tar, a coke by-product, a year.

Its main products include carbon pitch, used in the aluminium industry, cresote, and naphthalene, used in the chemical industries.

## Central banks hold back dollar

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Sterling weakened after a firm start in London and there was no need for any intervention by the Bank of England to hold the exchange down.

The pound closed 0.67 pence down at DM3.2038 with the effective rate index down 0.3 at 76.5.

The dollar rose strongly throughout the day on consideration of the testimony by Mr Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, to Congress on Thursday, and the rise in personal income and expenditure.

These were taken to reinforce the upward trend in interest rates. The US currency finished nearly a penny higher at DM1.8730 after some central bank intervention to restrain its rise.

Final figures for Britain's money supply during June for the most part confirmed the earlier figures. They also showed a further acceleration in the M2 measure to an annual rate of increase of 15 per cent.

Meanwhile growth in the narrow measure M0, which is the only measure targeted by the Government, has continued high during July. Mr Stephen Hannah of County NatWest Gilt said: "The weekly banking returns suggest that the year-on-year increase will fall back from 7 1/2 per cent to 7 per cent."

## Changes sought on stake disclosures

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The Government wants to shorten the five-day deadline for disclosure of stakes of 5 per cent or more in public companies. But it is asking for comment by mid-September on what the new limit should be.

A consultative paper from the Department of Trade and Industry also makes clear that the Government will consider applying the disclosure rules to stakes of less than 5 per cent if companies and the financial community want to do so.

The five-day deadline has been criticized because it allows predators planning takeovers to build their stakes much higher before they have to disclose initial purchases of 5 per cent.

The consultation paper stems from further studies set in train after last year's review of the rules of the City Takeover Panel in the wake of controversial takeover battles.

Changes in the five-day deadline and the 5 per cent rule could be made without the need for fresh legislation.

Government responses in the consultation paper suggest it is not keen on changes which would require legislative amendments.

In particular, the Government is unenthusiastic about changes in procedures for firms to force disclosure of the ultimate owners of nominee shareholdings under the 1985 Companies Act, which many have found so cumbersome as to be impractical.

Mr Francis Maude, the Corporate Affairs Minister, said, however, the Government would not decide policy until it had considered responses from companies and shareholders, especially on the use of nominees.

"If legislative changes are thought necessary, we intend to include them in the next Companies Bill," he said.

## Pearson sells oil subsidiary to Amerada Hess for £91m

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Whitehall, the British independent oil company and a subsidiary of the Pearson Group, has been bought by Amerada Hess, one of its larger competitors.

The deal is worth £91.5 million in cash.

Amerada Hess is owned by Amerada Hess Inc, the United States exploration and production company, which has substantial North Sea investments.

The main assets of Whitehall are its interests in the Rob Roy, Ivanhoe and Waverley fields, which are operated by Amerada Hess.

Ever since Pearson gave an indication it was hoping to sell its oil interests, it became inevitable Amerada Hess would emerge as the purchaser. After final currency adjustments, the price paid could be nearer £94 million.

As well as the shares it held in the Amerada Hess fields, Whitehall also holds a portfolio of 28 offshore licences and 15 onshore licences in areas where geologists consider there could be commercial oil deposits.

Amerada Hess has said that some of these assets could be sold on to Pict Petroleum, the smaller independent oil company in which it has a 40 per cent stake.

Mr Sam Laidlaw, managing director of Amerada Hess, said: "This purchase is an excellent opportunity for us, and is in line with our intention to further expand and develop our North Sea interests."

He added that discussions will now start with a view to selling some of the newly-acquired licences to strengthen Pict's operations.

The City regards the purchase by Amerada Hess as a sound, if expensive, investment - some analysts calculate the company has bought existing production at a price of £5.60p a barrel.

This compares with the £2 a barrel figure paid last week by Enterprise when it bought out Texas Eastern's stake in the Bell fields. The purchase could lead to Amerada Hess making a full bid for Pict later.

## T-Line ahead of forecast

Thomson T-Line, the fast-growing mini-conglomerate and owner of Vernons Pools, made pre-tax profits of £6.14 million for the year ended April, comfortably exceeding its forecast of £4.6 million.

The Vernons interest, whose acquisition was completed on March 4, contributed an estimated £1.5 million and, according to analysts, could be expected to bring in £3 million in a full year.

Thomson T-Line's profit for the previous 16 months was £760,000.

The group is declaring a final dividend of 1p a share, making 1.6p for the year.

## Anger as Crichton-Brown leaves Rothmans

### Cloud hangs over £750,000 'goodbye'

By Colin Campbell

Sir Robert Crichton-Brown, a man with a £750,000 frown, yesterday bowed out of Rothmans International, after only 44 months as chairman, with enough money from his "golden goodbye" to buy 474,683 packets of Dunhill International cigarettes.

The calculation assumes Sir Robert, who in his own words is now free to take his first holiday in four years, qualifies for no trade discounts.

Yesterday he was a man with a three-quarter of a million frown because ringing in his ears were cries of "it stinks," "morally indefensible," and "stupidly ill-judged."

Ordinary shareholders attending Rothmans' annual meeting at the Dorchester were hardly impressed when told there would be no show of hands on the resolution on Sir Robert's pay-off and instead there would be a poll.

One shareholder thought, at the very least, that since the two deputy chairmen had distinguished entries in *Who's Who*, the resolution would never have seen the light of day. What a shock to discover it was the three non-executives who came up with the idea and the figure, which the rest of the board unanimously endorsed.

Additional smoke was rubbed into shareholders' eyes when Mr David Montagu (acting chairman for the controversial resolution, and now the new chairman of Rothmans) added that in any case the group's two major shareholders had already given him their proxies, and that the resolution *per se* would go through.

"I will not even adjourn the meeting while the proxies are counted," Mr Montagu added, so Sir Robert's golden retreat was established at the rate of £15,000 a minute.

Had the two major shareholders been at the Dorchester they would have heard the call for them as individual companies to fund Sir Robert's goodbye present. As it was, all but one of the Rothmans board was left to squirm when it was pointed out that only one director was actually a shareholder.

For one who had just become three-quarters of a millionaire, Sir Robert's mood was black when surrounded by the Press afterwards. "I have no comment to make," was the best measured quote he could offer. Meanwhile in Pall Mall, Piccadilly, the Institute of Directors was delivering its judgement on golden goodbyes: justify them or stop them, the IoD booms.

Sir John Hoskings, director-general of the IoD, whose views could have had more impact had they been aired before the Rothmans meeting and before Sir Robert packed his holiday bags, said golden goodbyes to top company executives were getting business a bad name.

Large terminal ex-gratia payments to retiring executives may have been contractually justified and exhaustively discussed, Sir John conceded, but there was a real danger that, to those outside business who did not know the detail, the practice will give the impression of directors looking after directors.

"Where golden goodbyes are contractually justified, businesses should make a point of explaining why."

"Where they are not justified, it is incumbent upon non-executive directors, in their watchdog role and as guardians of a company's conscience, to speak out and seek to challenge such payments," Sir John added.

## Oftel in BT ruling

By Our Financial Editor

The Office of Telecommunications has given a new boost to Mercury, the designated competitor to British Telecom, by ruling that BT must reduce the rates it charges to connect Mercury to its international network.

BT charges standard network call rates, but from Monday these will be cut by between 15 and 45 per cent.

Mercury hailed the ruling as positive. It will affect 40 per cent of Mercury's international traffic, much of which operates at a loss, the rest being handled through Mercury's own direct links.

Mercury came into overall profit at the turn of the year and has been forecast by some City analysts to make a £30 million profit this year.

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Income, if that's applicable. What's more, the rate of 8.95% is guaranteed to be at least 0.5% below our mortgage base rate for six months after completion.

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To David Sinclair, The Chase Manhattan Home Loans Division, 3 Shoreditch, Hammersmith, London W6 8BZ. Please send me written details of your Home Loans.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount required: £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please state as appropriate: Main/Second Home/Over 65s/Over 70s

Example: A single man aged 29 buying a house for £200,000 and applying to us for an endowment mortgage of £40,000 to be secured over 25 years at the property rate on an endowment policy. Monthly repayment would be £46.00, no mortgage payments £242.00. Our APR is 9.5%. Interest rates are correct at time of going to press. We request a first mortgage over the property.

Conditions for charges and expenses which will be made in the early years of the period of an endowment policy may represent a higher proportion of the value of such policy than in subsequent years. Rate of an endowment policy during its early years may amount to less than the appropriate amount paid as premiums for such policy.

This advertisement is issued by The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., which is applied to join The Securities Association and is a member institution.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Guinness raises stake in LVMH by 1.2%

Guinness has marginally increased its stake in LVMH, the French drinks and luxury goods group...

Reed buyout completed

Reed International has completed the £618 million buyout of its parent, Reederei...

Wace leaps by 113%

Wace Group, the print company, raised profits before tax to £3 million compared with £1.41 million...

Runciman defence

Walter Runciman, the shipping, security and insurance group threatened by a £31 million takeover bid from Telfos Holdings...

Union sells property arm

Union Group, the property company run by Mr Peter Lewin, the former joint managing director of Claymore Properties...

RHM stake increased

Goodman Fielder Wattie, the Australasian food group, has taken its stake in Ranks Hovis McDougall to 29 per cent...

Greenbank expands

Walter Greenbank, the industrial mini-conglomerate chaired by the former Lord Mayor of London, Sir Anthony Joffiffe...

STOCK MARKET

Sears' shares near peak on hopes of West German bid

As the two-week trading account limped to an uninspired close yesterday, all eyes were again turned towards Sears...



British trade figures which showed Britain's June current account more than £1 billion in the red...

from £128 million to £120 million. The dual move prompted weakness in the shares which dropped to a new low for the year of 228p...

After the recent bid for Atlantic Computers, dealers are hoping for some action in MBS, the microcomputer distributor...

Phillips & Drew and Warburg Securities are both fans of Next and believe that the launch of the group's autumn 'Next Directory'...

ABF withdrew its £767 million cash offer (400p a share) following the October market crash...

Brokers have different opinions about the break-up value of the company, Phillips & Drew says between 155p and 165p a share...

Interest in gilt-edged stocks remained at a low ebb. Closing falls of about 1/4 were commonplace after sterling failed to hold its best level...

Shares of Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Hovis bread and Saxon salt group, dropped to 458p at one stage before closing 4p lower at 462p...

Prices closed at about their best levels of the day after the usual late surge of penalty-free buying for the new account which starts on Monday...

Shares of Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Hovis bread and Saxon salt group, dropped to 458p at one stage before closing 4p lower at 462p...

Shares of Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Hovis bread and Saxon salt group, dropped to 458p at one stage before closing 4p lower at 462p...

NEW YORK

Dow up 12 points in opening deals

(Reuters) - Shares rose in early trading yesterday with blue chips leading the way and assisted by a rise in Union Carbide...

TOKYO

Widespread buying

(Reuters) - The Nikkei index rose by 115.54 points, or 0.42 per cent, to 27,911.63 yesterday. It gained 57.52 points on Thursday...

FRANKFURT

Prices edge higher

(Reuters) - The DAX 30-share index closed 15.72 points, or 1.3 per cent up at 1,181.72 but was off the day's high of 1,185.60...

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices including columns for company names, current prices, and percentage changes.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table of London traded options with columns for company names, call/put prices, and other details.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table of Canadian stock prices for various companies.

COMPANY NEWS

AMS INDUSTRIES (nt) Turnover £3.04 (£3.33m). Pre-tax £0.26 (£0.95m). EPS: 0.56 (2.02p). Div: 0.5 (0.5p).

Lloyds Bank results for the first half of 1988

"Our strong profit stream, particularly from our UK businesses, has enabled us once again to increase the dividend and strengthen our capital ratios."

Table showing Lloyds Bank financial results for 6 months ended 30 June 1988, 6 months ended 30 June 1987, and 12 months ended 31 December 1987.

Note: Financial information for the 12 months ended 31 December 1987 is based on the full accounts for 1987, on which the auditors gave an unqualified report and which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

An interim dividend of 5.5p per share will be paid on 6 October 1988 to shareholders registered on 11 August 1988.

Full details of Lloyds Bank's results for the first half of 1988 may be obtained from: Corporate Communications Division, Hays Lane House, 1 Hays Lane, London SE1 2HN.

Lloyds Bank logo and address: THE THOROUGHbred BANK. Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS. Member of IMRO.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table of traditional options with columns for company names, call/put prices, and other details.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table of Alpha Stocks with columns for company names, prices, and other details.

RECENT ISSUES

Table of recent issues with columns for company names, prices, and other details.

# AGB Research has to write off £45m over US challenge

By Michael Tate

Britain's biggest market research group, AGB Research, has been forced to write off £45 million in connection with its ill-starred challenge to AC Nielsen's domination of the US television audience measurement market.

The US operation, which pioneered the electronic PeopleMeter has been closed down, and, under the terms of its formation, it must repay £29 million of loans and equity investment to its partners and backers, and write off a further £16 million in connection with its own, minority, investment.

A restructuring of AGB sees the group pumping a further £22 million into the US via the acquisition of Mediarmark Research Inc, a leading US market research business, from MAI, the quoted money

broking to advertising group. This deal leaves MAI, the group which made its fortune from roadside posters, with a 28 per cent stake in AGB, which still has its television ratings business in Britain.

At the same time AGB is selling its Trenton Group of exhibition businesses and its AGB Highway publishing division, publisher of *Fishing News* and other commercial fishing magazines, to EMAP, the former East Midlands Allied Press, for £22 million in cash.

Commenting on the US closure, Sir Bernard Audley, AGB chairman, said: "The prospects of future revenue would not make the project viable and would be unlikely to cover the increased level of costs."

AGB developed the People-

Meter system for measuring TV audiences, but found itself overwhelmed when Nielsen fought back, and was unable to win the necessary support from the US television networks.

Shares in AGB, suspended at 23p two weeks ago, returned to the market, and closed at 19p.

Ignoring the £45 million extraordinary charge, Sir Bernard estimated that profits for the year to April were not less than £10.6 million, against £10.8 million. Earnings per share should be 14.1p.

Mr Clive Hollick, chairman of MAI, said the deal with AGB "achieves the strategic objective for us of getting into the market research business without having to issue shares. In fact, there is a small earnings-per-share gain."

# Action on Outhwaite 'not likely to succeed'

The likelihood of legal action by the 1,500 investors in RHM Outhwaite, the Lloyd's of London underwriting syndicate which faces claims of up to £260 million, receded yesterday after an independent lawyer's report on the losses.

The report by Mr Stewart Boyd QC was commissioned by the names in the Outhwaite syndicate who are considering taking legal action against Mr Richard Outhwaite, the underwriter.

Mr Boyd confirmed the conclusions of two earlier reports which said although the names had cause for concern, they were unlikely to win a court battle. In particular, an investigation carried out by Freshfields, a firm of solicitors, on behalf of the managing agents involved, criticized Mr Outhwaite but said evidence did not amount to a strong enough case.

Mr Boyd did not rule out the possibility of a successful legal action. Interpretation of the law involved predicting how a court would decide on a particular case in the light of previous decisions, and that could not be certain.

Mr Outhwaite is suing the Lloyd's syndicates from which he took the reinsurance business which is causing the losses. He said he was given insufficient information about the policies.

# £35,000 profit for Electronic

Electronic Machine Company, the radar, electronics and optics group, has improved pre-tax profits despite "difficult trading conditions".

Pre-tax profit for the half year to end-March rose to £35,000 from £21,000. The interim dividend is unchanged at 0.3p.

# Park down

Park Food Group reported profits down 12.9 per cent at £2.28 million for the year to end-March, despite an 18 per cent increase in turnover. The directors proposed a dividend increase to 3.6p from 3.25p.

# Addison fall

Shares in Addison Consultancy fell yesterday after it warned that profits for the first half would do little more than break even. After falling 3p, shares closed 1p lower at 38p.

# Shield up 28%

Shield, the USM property group, has posted pre-tax profits of £1.6 million for the year to end-March, 28 per cent up. Earnings per share fell from 10.4p to 6.21p.

# Ecobric bid

Zurich, a privately owned property developer, has made an agreed £9.4 million bid for Ecobric Holdings and has arranged for a placing of its own shares on the USM.

# Phones are ringing for the telecommunications world



While Sir Ernest Harrison busily polishes Vodafone, Raci's golden egg, and seeks to protect it from the cuckoo in the nest, Mr Shelby Bryan, the chairman of Millicom, Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has fired the gun in the race to become the next winner in the great telephone race.

On Thursday the estimable Young, who patently believes in the enterprise culture, said he would award between two and four licences to operate the next generation of cordless telephones — the CT2. Like the cellular telephones before them CT2s will have a huge impact. Unlike cellular telephones, they are designed from the beginning to bring mobile communications to the mass market. They will cost probably £150 compared with £1,000 and more for telephones of the Vodafone and Cellnet variety.

The CT2 is more limited than a telephone linked with a cellular network — it can be used only within 200 yards of a base station (a "Telepoint" about the size of a biscuit tin). Initially it may be limited to outgoing calls through a second stage CT2 is equipped with a pager through which the CT2 user would receive messages. Users would buy a handset, supplied with an authorization code for billing and verification. Calls would be carried through the Telepoints — set up at stations, airports, in stores, hotels, office PABXs

and homes — to the Mercury or British Telecom networks.

A Logica survey last year forecast 1.2 million cordless telephones in Britain by 1992. Taking a cue that this week Vodafone installed its 200,000th cellular telephone and is looking to 500,000 installations by the same year, the Logica estimate is far too low. We are talking here of a mass market for a high quality digital product which everyone can understand and operate.

So far 15 companies have expressed an interest in CT2 licences. All Lord Young would say was that BT and Mercury, a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless, would not "automatically" be given a licence. With Vodafone, they do start with the advantage of having a network and will be in there pitching with every chance of succeeding. More over the Telepoints or "Phonepoints" could be attached to a cellular network in a way that would enable users in transit by train, bus or taxi to make urgent calls "on the move".

There is a division of interest in CT2 between equipment manufacturing and

operating the service. With the latter, Vodafone is a fair game, likely to be much more profitable. It will take time to establish the system and profits are probably three years out. But the companies which are ahead are Ferranti and Orbital (Plessey-Raci). BT is seemingly at odds with STC and Shaye (Clive Sinclair) in an unknown quantity.

Of these Ferranti is the most interesting from an investment angle. The shares have come up this year to 95p and after an unexceptional set of results, coupled with the facts that since the ISC merger the company relies for 80 per cent of its profits on defence business and is dollar dependent, they are considered by some analysts to be pricey.

I think not, as a long-term investment. Miracles rarely happen overnight but BT2 should put Ferranti in an altogether better light, especially at a time when prospects for the core business have improved with the Saudi Tornado order and the development of the European Fighter Aircraft.

Unlike Vodafone and Cellnet, Ferranti would not have an exclusive CT2 operating licence. Against that start up CT2 costs are low. The manufacturing and licensing company is Libera Developments in which Ferranti has a 25 per cent stake. The operator would be Creditphone, 80 per cent Ferranti owned.

Telecommunications is the world to be in.

# Merrydown rises 16%



I'll drink to that: Richard Purdey, the managing director (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Merrydown Wine, the Sussex cider-maker, shone through a wet summer and warmed a chilly Christmas to produce a 16.3 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for the year to end-May, at £1.48 million.

Turnover rose by 11.8 per cent to £11.98 million, even though the British drank 2 per cent less cider last summer. Merrydown won a record share of the Christmas market, and says Mr Richard Purdey, the managing direc-

tor, "maintained this momentum through the final quarter."

Earnings per share rose from 19.84p to 22.67p, and a 5p-a-share final dividend is recommended, making 6p for the year, up 12.5 per cent. Shareholders also have a one-for-eight scrip issue.

Merrydown has extended capacity by 50 per cent in the past year, and will spend £700,000 this year as it widens its product range.

● H.P. Bulmer Holdings has acquired Symonds Cider and English Wine from Greenall Whitley of Lancashire. Symonds makes Drystone and Scrumpy Jack ciders, which sell in the North-west and the Midlands, and Symonds apple juices.

Net assets were £4.7 million at the last count. "We paid quite a bit more," said Mr John Rudgard, the Bulmer managing director.

# Healthy interims at Nestor-BNA

By Carol Ferguson

Nestor-BNA, Britain's biggest nursing agency, yesterday announced a 50 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £1.6 million in its first interim statement since obtaining a full listing on the Stock Exchange last November.

Profits were boosted by a drop in interest charges on significantly reduced borrowings, resulting from the £4 million cash raised by the public flotation.

Earnings per share in the six months rose 13 per cent to 2.95p, and shareholders will receive an interim dividend of 0.8p net.

Its nursing agency division, British Nursing Association, which saw operating profits increase 12 per cent, contributed £1.33 million — about

three-quarters of total operating profits.

The group's four nursing homes and hospitals and its doctors' deputising service contributed the balance in approximately equal proportions.

Mr Mike Rogers, the group managing director, said that BNA, whose commission is based on a percentage of its nurses' salaries, is a direct beneficiary of any pay rises awarded.

"So far, the nurses have only had a 4 per cent pay rise from April this year, but they will get further rises of between 8 per cent and 25 per cent once the grading is complete, sometime in November," Mr Rogers said yesterday.

# Midsummer pays £6.5m for pubs

By Martin Waller

Midsummer Leisure, the public houses to snooker halls operator, has bought nine traditional pubs in London for up to £6.5 million.

The deal brings to the group a fringe City property which, in itself, could be worth more than £2 million.

Midsummer is buying EJ Rose, a private group which owns such City premises as Simpsons and the Jamaica Wine House, both off Cornhill. It is paying half cash and half new shares.

The Midsummer stable of public houses in the capital now stands at 20. It was recently expanded by the acquisition of Bruce's Brewery, whose houses trade under the Firkin name.

Mr Adam Page, the Mid-

summer chairman, said some of the latest purchases had considerable development potential and could be "firkinized" — to trade as on-site brewers along the lines of some of the group's other London properties.

But customers using the Cornhill pubs will not have to brave the noisy atmosphere which characterizes the Firkin houses.

Mr Page said he was well aware of the conservative nature of the customers. "There are improvements that can be made without being too radical."

Midsummer hopes to have found a buyer in September for Rose's Spitalfields head office, which could fetch more than £2 million to a developer.

# Silly season in the stock market

Geoffrey Lewis, one of the most experienced and perceptive market-makers I know, drily observed that at present "there is no stock market, only a market in stocks." No one can say we are back in a bull market; nor is the market likely to regain complete confidence when interest rates are rising, sterling rises a sea of uncertainties and the tone of economic news is squawky.

On the other hand (famous phrase!) the underlying trend of the equity indices this year has been up and the prophets of doom who saw a second crash as the inevitable sequel to October's collapse have fallen silent.

My own view remains that we have seen the worst and British ordinary shares have begun to climb from the trough. Company earnings (and dividends) are rising and while the already twice-bitten fund managers sit timidly on their hands, funds available for investment are growing. The retreat into cash after the October debacle took the institutions' liquid funds up to £27 billion by the end of 1987 and the figure is probably higher now. When they decide to move decisively back into British equities — and they will all do so together — the impact on share prices will be sudden and sharp.

That is not likely to happen for a while. The trough has slippery sides. Bank base rates have been raised six times in seven weeks; the balance of payments deficit this year will not be £4 billion as forecast at Budget time but £10 billion (at best); and the Chancellor has admitted that inflation will end the year above the forecast 4 per cent (4.6

per cent) and will continue to rise until mid-1989 (6 per cent) before falling.

These revisions raise critical questions. It is pretty plain that while pushing inflation from the system remains "the ultimate objective" of Thatcherite economic and financial management, for the time being the ultimate will not be sought at the expense of a healthy, if tapered, rate of growth. The second question is whether the Chancellor, given his revised view of inflation, believes that 10½ per cent base rates are as far up the scale as he needs to go to stanch "excessive" spending. He will not want to see the pound higher against the mark. But if the currency markets sense that British interest rates will be pushed even higher to curb consumption and keep inflation within the new forecasts, sterling will rise. The difficult choice then is between endeavouring to contain sterling through intervention in the foreign exchange markets, which Mrs Thatcher does not like, and lowering interest rates and making credit cheaper, which the Chancellor would not like. Probably the best answer is for everyone to go away in August and think of other things!

short of business and it is easy to be carried away into the wrong situations. I have no doubt that sectors of industry are in an important phase of reconstruction through acquisition and merger. Electronics, food and publishing (look at Reed International, at 468p probably worth almost twice that) are in the public eye; insurance is about to move to centre stage; movement has begun in earnest in construction.

P&O's stake in Taylor Woodrow, raised this week from 6 to 8.6 per cent, is much more likely to break the log-jam in construction than Trafalgar's more modest holding in Richard Costain, which is likely to be sold. Sir Jeffrey Stirling, who sang a duet in harmony with Sir Frank Gibb when they revealed P&O's 6 per cent, does not make hostile bids. Nor is he by nature a buyer without a strategic purpose.

It would, for example, make excellent sense — and the timing would be right — to twist Sir Frank's arm (persuade him, that is) to take Bovis from P&O in exchange for say 20 per cent of Woodrow's equity. Woodrow is a fine company, tired of hearing of imminent takeovers and thus amenable to having a protective layer in the form of a big minority shareholder with whom it felt comfortable.

The reasoning behind most of the acquisitions and mergers we are about to see (some may not go beyond the cross-holding stage) is the same: in an expanding international environment most British companies, even leaders in their own industries, are still too small to have the necessary clout.

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# BT: transplant patient doing well

By Colin Narborough

Mr Iain Vallance, the British Telecom chairman, was acting like a rather confident head surgeon when he addressed the company's annual meeting at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham yesterday.

To illustrate how challenging his job is, he played the risky analogy of the human body.

Only 1,200 of BT's 1.3 million shareholders were there to hear him, reflecting the board's choice of the last Friday in July for the meeting and the dwindling shareholder base.

The heart, lungs and so on were equivalent to BT's exchanges. Mr Vallance said, while the brain was the computer system which gave the network intelligence. The transmission system — cables, microwaves and satellite links — were the nervous system.

And all this complex and sophisticated structure could be found behind the simple telephone socket on your wall at home, he told a hushed audience.

"What we are doing today is effectively replacing all the organs, the brain and the nervous system," Mr Vallance said. "But not only do we have to keep the old and the new organs

working in parallel, we also have to allow the body to grow at the rate of some 10 per cent per year."

BT, in fact, grew only 9.1 per cent last year for a turnover of £10.2 billion. Profits were, however, 10.9 per cent up at £2.3-billion.

Mr Vallance, sticking to his body analogy, saw further complications in as much as BT was simultaneously "changing the rhesus factor of the blood by converting from analogue to digital technology."

He admitted that the sheer scale of what the company was doing could cause problems in the short-term, but that overall the programme of changing from old to new while continuing to improve quality of service has gone smoothly.

The new price formula recently thrashed out with OfTel, the industry watchdog, tightened the screws for BT and represented a "tough target." But he was confident that sufficient funds could be generated to finance BT's £2.4 billion investment programme and still give a good return on shareholders' investment.

As evidence, he firmly rejected one shareholder's call for lowering the planned dividend payment of 5.75p. Mr

Vallance said 1987 had produced a very satisfactory financial performance, with a marked recovery from the service problems of earlier in the year.

He said he was convinced the company's combination of financial strengths, technological skill, management determination and an able workforce would allow it to operate successfully and take its place as one of the world's leading telecommunications groups.

On improvements in quality, he said three key measures had been used. Figures of performance for repairs cleared within two working days clearly showed steady improvement.

The same positive trend could be seen in providing services to homes and businesses, and the 90 per cent serviceability target for pay-phones had been achieved.

Itemized billing would be available to half of BT's customers in 1990, with a 90 per cent level in the London area. This type of billing would be certain to work in the customer's favour, he added.

For the nostalgic, the question of the future of the old red telephone booths was raised by several shareholders. Mr Vallance assured them that 1,000 would be kept.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information, including columns for fund names, managers, and performance metrics.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company names, prices, and other financial data.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for trust names, managers, and performance metrics.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for different countries.

MONEY MARKETS

Table of money market rates, including Euro money deposits.

THIRD MARKET

Table of third market trading data.

TREASURY BILLS

Table of treasury bill rates.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods.

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FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Table with columns: Nominal rate, Compounded return at best rates, Min/max investment, Notice, Contact. Rows include Banks (Ordinary Dep A/c, Fixed Term Deposits) and High Interest Cheque Accounts.

Table with columns: Building Societies, Ordinary Share A/c, Best buy - largest socs, Best buy - all socs, Cash/Cheque Accounts.

Table with columns: National Savings, Ordinary A/c, Investment A/c, Deposit Bond, 30th Issue Cert, Early Plan, General Extension Rate.

Table with columns: Guaranteed Income Bonds, Credit & Commerce, Alliance & Leicester, National Westminster, RPI (June 87-88), Bank Rate, Deposit Rate, General Extension Rate.

Table with columns: Larger Lenders, Building Societies, Banks, Finance House. Includes Abbey National, Bradford & Bingley, Lloyds Permanent, Girobank, Premier Portfolio.

NatPro: Too few know

The National & Provincial Building Society is edging towards becoming a plc. This week it published research which purports to support for the move...

The greed factor at work again?

members revealed that few understand what the debate is all about. Nearly two-thirds - 65 per cent - had no idea any building society was about to convert to a plc...

Savers start to reap the mortgage rise benefit

Saver's rates have begun chasing the mortgage rates. New higher rates are on offer on Monday at 1 to 1.25 percentage points above the old rates...

Barclays has increased the interest on the Capital Account for sums of more than £10,000, which requires a month's notice, to 8 per cent.

Building Societies have had a 50 per cent increase in savers looking for mortgages since the Budget announcement.

Designer unit trusts

Designer unit trusts are on the cards as retailing giants such as Marks & Spencer examine the attractions of launching financial services such as investments, insurance and pensions...

Tax change for UK residents abroad

Tax exiles and managers earning dual salaries in the UK may get hit hard if the Inland Revenue goes ahead with dramatic changes in the UK tax system.

The aim, says the Inland Revenue is to reduce the scope for people to "manipulate the rules to secure a tax advantage".

Large table of Unit-Linked Insurance Investments with columns: Fund Name, Bid, Offer, Change, Yield. Includes sections for Aetna Life Insurance, Allianz Life, Amersford, etc.

Handwritten signature: Vivien Goldsmith

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

# FAMILY MONEY

## Gaps in SIB scheme

The compensation scheme that should at last give investors some real confidence in the effectiveness of the Financial Services Act comes into effect four weeks from today. But investors should not be too complacent. It will not protect against crashing markets and it will not protect all your funds.

If an authorized firm fails, investors will normally have the first £30,000 of their investment replaced in full and 90 per cent of the next £20,000 — a total of £48,000. This is by no means guaranteed, however. The fund is limited to paying out a total of £100 million in any one year. So if claims are running high, the fund managers can start scaling down claims.

Someone who suffers a loss in a year when claims run high will not be compensated to the same maximum level which will apply in years when compensation claims do not threaten to exceed the limit. There is no appeals mechanism for aggrieved investors to challenge the decisions of the management company, other than by judicial review.

The fund applies only to authorized firms — those who invest with interim authorized firms do not merit the protection of the scheme.

Under the Financial Services Act, 34,000 firms have now been



Walker. Discretion needed authorized, but a further 2,000 are in limbo with interim authorization. Investors have no way of knowing whether these firms are at the back of the applications queue or are under scrutiny because irregularities have been spotted.

David Walker, the chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, said it was up to investors to use their judgement in dealing with these firms. Investors who use one of the 34 stockbrokers who have interim authorization or an Irish stockbroker should remember that the Stock Exchange compensation fund is due to be abandoned as the SIB industry-wide scheme comes in on August 27.

But the Stock Exchange is considering extending the scheme for a limited period to cover

interim authorized firms.

So how can investors gain maximum protection from the scheme? First, it may be wise to parcel up investments into £30,000 lots so each will qualify for 100 per cent compensation.

This may be more practicable in theory than in practice as some firms — stock brokers and portfolio management companies — will not handle what they consider small parcels of funds. Husbands and wives who invest jointly will be limited to one stab at the compensation fund — a maximum of £48,000. So couples might be wise to split their investments and hold them in their own names to double the amount of compensation they can claim.

Those who already hold investments with authorized firms will be able to make a claim on the fund if the investment turns sour. But any claim will be limited to the value of the investment on 27 August rather than at the time of investment.

No one — and that includes investors in Barlow Clowes — will be able to make a claim on money lost before August 27.

So if you have money invested with an authorized firm on-shore, you do not have to take any special action to qualify under the fund. However, if you have money

invested off-shore in unauthorized funds then your only claim will be against financial advisers authorized under the Financial Services Act to conduct business in the UK who advised you to make the investment.

The compensation fund will only apply to advice given after 27 August. So investors with off-shore investments should return to their advisers after August 27 to get fresh advice — in writing — a sort of bed-and-breakfasting of advice.

The adviser will then be able to confirm his advice to invest in the same fund and the funds will then qualify for the compensation scheme. He may well recommend changes. Advisers should be reminded that they are not allowed to churn portfolios to gather more commission.

But any change in advice may be due to a new degree of caution brought on by the collapse of Barlow Clowes and the strict guidelines of "know your customer" and "best advice" under the Financial Services Act.

The Consumers' Association is dismayed; it wanted the maximum pay-out to be raised to £100,000 and it is worried by the £100-million-a-year limit, which may lead to inequitable treatment of investors.

Vivien Goldsmith

## Special account mystery

More than a thousand National Westminster Bank customers got a nasty shock recently when they received a bank statement showing that their Special Reserve Account had been closed and the balance transferred elsewhere, writes Vivien Goldsmith.

"I thought a hacker had got into my account," said Jim Fisher, a public-relations consultant. "I got the statement one evening and worried about it all night — just think what a letter like that could have done to an elderly person with a weak heart."

National Westminster has "hundreds of thousands" of Special Reserve account-holders — the exact number is considered a commercial secret — and when the account was changed to include a cheque book, it was decided to switch the administration from a central office in Birmingham to the branches.

This involved closing the original account and transferring funds to a new account based at a branch. Letters were due to be sent out by a direct mail firm on July 13 and 14.

The accounts were then closed on July 18 and closing statements



Sue Walker: No letter at all explaining the closure of her account. sent to all customers a few days later.

But more than a thousand customers did not receive the original letter. The first they knew about any change was that their account had been closed and the funds moved to another account — not one they had opened or knew anything about.

A NatWest official said that this was the largest exercise of its type undertaken by the bank and most clients received the explanatory letter before the statement showing that their account had been closed.

Mr Fisher did eventually receive the original letter, not an amended one with any hint of an apology.

He remains sceptical of the estimate number of delayed letters given by the bank, adding: "There

are only eight of us in my office, and two of us discovered that we both had Special Reserve Accounts and neither of us got the letter before the account was closed."

My account is in Bristol and my colleague's in south Croydon, so it was not a matter of just one area or branch being affected."

His colleague, Sue Walker, has still not received any letter at all explaining the closure of her account.

She said: "I was not in such a panic as Mr Fisher because I knew about him, but I hand-delivered a letter to my bank on the morning I got my statement and I have not heard a word since — not a letter, not a phone call — nothing. I had only asked what had happened to my money."

## Easier cash for eight million



The two major card-cash machine networks, Link and Matrix, are to merge next spring.

This will give the 8,000,000 card-holders access to more than 2,000 dispensers.

After the marriage the network will be known by a single name, but it has not yet been decided whether it will be Link or Matrix.

John Hardy, chairman of Link, said: "We tried Mink and Latrix, but they did not work. Using one of the existing names will help to cut the costs of the change, which will be shared by all members."

Link has 4.5 million members and 1,300 automated-teller machines (ATMs), and its members include the Abbey National Building Society and Girobank.

Matrix has 1.6 million members and 660 ATMs; members include the Alliance & Leicester, National & Provincial and Bradford & Bingley Building Societies.

The Nationwide Anglia and Woolwich are members of both since the merger of soci-

ties which belonged to both networks.

The Bank of Scotland, which has a reciprocal arrangement with Matrix, will continue the arrangement with the enlarged group.

Tony Stoughton-Harris, chairman of Matrix said: "Overnight, millions of cash-card-holders will have access to twice the number of cash machines — a major boost in service at no extra cost to them whatsoever."

A new joint company will be formed which will be wholly owned by its members.

The way in which costs will be allocated has not yet been decided but it is probable that the number of ATMs provided and the extent to which members use the network's machines will be taken into consideration, and not just asset size.

No payment has been made by one organization to the other to set up the scheme, despite the fact that Link is so much larger than Matrix.

"Both organizations are growing rapidly," said Mr Hardy. "It seemed better to get on and do it rather than waste time haggling."

"We both need to invest in new central switching and doing it jointly will save money."

All ATMs will tell customers their balance as well as handing out cash, and some will also give full statements, and handle bill payments, cheque book requests and transfers between accounts.

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Telephone Huw Llewellyn on 01-480 7651, or return the coupon to: Private Client Futures Department, Bailey Shatkin Ltd., FREEPOST, London E1 9BR.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

(if you would like us to call you...)

Tel. (Office) \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Futures and options trading is highly speculative and should only be financed with strictly risk capital. Whilst clients may make substantial gains, they may, however, lose all or more than the funds initially devoted to such trading and be adversely affected by exchange rate fluctuations. The above applies specifically to trades executed on Recognised Investment Exchanges, trades outside those exchanges may be subject to further risks.

### BAILEY SHATKIN LIMITED

Members of AFBD

The Association of Futures and Brokers and Dealers Limited

# "I was a trifle

with so many

### FINANCIAL ADVISERS

# my

different

Assets

WERE A BIT

# UN

coordinated."

You have an investment adviser. A building society manager. And a stockbroker. And a pensions consultant. And so on. And chances are none of them talk to each other.

To us that seems a bit like having an army without a general. An orchestra without a conductor. A... well, you get the idea.

Happily, however, the job of Lloyds Bank Financial Services is to coordinate all of your finances.

And advise you how to spread your money around in the best possible way for you at any one time.

We have experts to help you with tax, wills, insurance, investments, in fact almost everything. So unlike your

other advisers, we'll therefore know as much about your unit trusts, for example, as your stock market investments.

(And unlike some other advisers, we'll have no particular axe to grind.)

One of the services we can offer involves appointing a personal account executive.

Who will provide you with full investment management or, if you prefer, simple portfolio administration.

He'll see that your paperwork is dealt with for you.

That you're sent a regular statement.

That you're consulted and kept up to date.

On top of which you'll be able to relax in the knowledge that with the left hand knowing what the right hand's doing, you're making the most of

your assets. You've worked hard for your life savings. Now it's our turn to make them do the same for you.

To find out more, fill in the coupon or call us on 0-444 418165. Or drop in to your local branch of Lloyds Bank.

To: Mike Johnson, Lloyds Bank Financial Services Ltd., FREEPOST, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex RH16 3ZA.  
Please send me further information on Lloyds Bank Financial Services.  
NAME (Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
I am/am not a customer of Lloyds Bank.



# 3 UNIT TRUSTS

With over one thousand unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each:

**Recovery Fund** for capital growth, **Dividend Fund** for an increasing income, and **SECOND General** for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

### Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched, and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

Table with 4 columns: Year ended 31 December, M&G RECOVERY, FT ORDINARY INDEX, BUILDING SOCIETY. Data for years 1975-1988.

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are at revaluation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 27th July 1983 would have grown to £17,916 by 27th July 1988 with net income reinvested. Estimated.

FURTHER INFORMATION: On 27th July 1988 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were: Recovery 562.7p, Dividend 568.3p, SECOND 989.0p.

### Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income and a yield about 50% higher than the FT Actuarial All-Share Index.

Table with 4 columns: Year ended 31 December, M&G DIVIDEND, BUILDING SOCIETY, CAPITAL. Data for years 1975-1988.

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend figures are at revaluation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G Dividend Fund on 27th July 1983 would have grown to £13,389 by 27th July 1988. Estimated for the year.

### Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G SECOND General Trust Fund aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 32-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies and expected yield in line with the FT Actuarial All-Share Index.

Table with 4 columns: Year ended 31 December, M&G SECOND, FT ORDINARY INDEX, BUILDING SOCIETY. Data for years 1975-1988.

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G SECOND General figures are at revaluation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G SECOND General on 27th July 1983 would have grown to £23,143 by 27th July 1988 with net income reinvested. Estimated.

Further information: The Trustee for Recovery and Recovery II is Barclays Bank Trust Co Limited and for SECOND is Lloyd's Bank Plc.

Further information: The Trustee for SECOND is Lloyd's Bank Plc.

# FAMILY MONEY

## Do nicely, Tovarish



Soviet citizens are about to experience the joy of credit cards. The first Soviet Visa card, right, has been issued to Yuri Titov, secretary general of the USSR National Olympic Committee, and more will follow. Visa has provided funds for the Olympic movement in the Soviet Union, as well as other countries.

The USSR is also to get electronic card payments systems. At present, cash is the preferred means of payment in the Soviet Union.

Girobank is sponsoring Oxfam's first special projects manager via a special Oxfam Visa card. The bank will donate £5 to Oxfam the first time one of these cards is used and then 25p for every £100 spent with the card. None of this sponsorship will cost the customer anything.

The public prosecutor in Bochum in West Germany has broken up what is believed to be a large ring of international share fraudsters who have allegedly swindled investors out of an estimated \$200 million.

Among the many British victims of the alleged fraud is a London student who has been forced to give up his studies and take a job to repay £3,000 he borrowed to invest in dud shares.

The allegations centre on a Swiss firm of stockbrokers, Chelsea Financial, based in Basel. Last year the firm used an address in the West End to attract British clients. (It has no connection with the similarly named British company, which is based in Fulham and belongs to the watchdog body Finafra.)

Chelsea is said to have consistently promoted shares in certain companies on the basis of false claims that the companies were subject to takeover. The suggestion is that the shares sold to clients were bought in advance at a much lower price by associates of the company, giving Chelsea a massive profit from every sale.

Confirming that many arrests have been made, Bochum's chief prosecutor, Hans Durrfeldt, told *The Times* that in one Chelsea deal he has examined: "They were buying shares at about five cents and selling them at \$1.31."

One of Chelsea's "recruiting offices" is in Dortmund, near Bochum, and arrests have been made there as well as in Hamburg and Nuremberg. Swiss police, acting in co-operation with the Germans, have arrested Chelsea director Gerard Fekkes, a Dutchman. Also arrested in Basel was a senior member of Chelsea's staff, who had used the name Schreiner when dealing with investors but whose true name is Sussmann. Both men have been extradited to Germany where they are in custody.

The firm recruited customers all over Europe by advertising free subscriptions

## Clients lose \$200m to share ring



Winslade: I did the right things

to an investment newsletter, *Flash Report*, but it then subjected them to high-pressure telephone calls until they agreed to buy shares. *Flash Report* had a poor track record of share tipping and Chelsea's main promoters in it and on the telephone have been universally disastrous. They include:

• Data Link, an American finance company said to be taking over two banks in Colorado; the deal collapsed when authorities seized the banks, which were almost broke.

• Sherwood Financial, described as "the absolute favourite of the recommendation lists of several European and American brokerage houses", was said to have taken over a thriving travel agency and two successful insurance companies in England. This deal fell through when the travel agency went bust and one of the insurance companies was found to be dormant.

• Messidor, a Utah mining and investment company,

said to own a prominent commodity trading business in Holland; the commodity trading firm has recently been charged in Amman with offering investment services to the public without a licence.

Clevo, tipped as "one of the most interesting Canadian mining shares" about to be quoted on the stock exchange when its founder lost his life in a tragic accident; in fact its founder was a veteran swindler who was shot by one of his victims.

Mike Gilmour, an investor in Cumbria, paid Chelsea \$3,250 for Messidor shares but ran into difficulties when he wanted to sell. "I was offered a transfer into something called Vanguard Financial," he says. "The promise was that they were coming to the market."

In fact, Vanguard was already traded on the high-risk over-the-counter market in the United States. It has since collapsed in the face of fraud charges brought by the watchdog Securities & Exchange Commission.

Another investor who sent a reply coupon to Chelsea's London address was a student who has asked not to be named. Unable to qualify for a grant, he was paying his own way through college, living on savings and on loans from his family. He invested and lost - £3,000.

"I borrowed quite a lot of money so I have had to give up my course and start work again," he said this week. "My family know nothing at all about this."

Chelsea's Basel offices were

unmanned this week and the telephone had been disconnected. But the firm may well have had some inkling that official action was being planned. Chelsea customers in England are already being contacted by new firms with links to the Basel business.

A new company, Stockwell Financial, has set up in Lucerne. Its directors are identical to the three names known to the Swiss authorities as being behind Chelsea.

Adrian Winslade, a civil engineer from Leatherhead, was contacted a few weeks ago by Stockwell and eventually paid £1,000 for shares in a tiny US defence contractor. "I did all the right things," he says. "I only invested risk capital I could afford to lose, and I even got a banker's reference on Stockwell." Many of Chelsea's salesforce are believed to have left Switzerland. Some have surfaced in Spain under the name Allied Chelsea. A London businessman who was a client of Chelsea in Basel was contacted two weeks ago from Switzerland and told in future he should dial a Madrid number to speak to his personal broker.

The number was for a company called Financial Services, which was negotiating a merger with Chelsea Financial. Financial Services is a subsidiary of a Gibraltar share-dealing firm called International Finance & Management.

IFM's chairman, Bernard Klavir, is a Londoner who has lived mainly in Canada for the past 20 years. IFM should fit well into the Chelsea style of business as it has generated complaints to the Gibraltar authorities over deals in the shares of an obscure American company.

Mr Klavir himself is no stranger to the odd brush with the law; since 1973 he has been involved in the Los Angeles police who want to serve him with an arrest warrant on share dealing charges.

Tony Hetherington

### INVESTMENT FROM £1,000

Form for M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Includes fields for name, address, phone, and checkboxes for Recovery, Dividend, and Second funds.

# MAKE STOCKMARKET FLUCTUATIONS WORK FOR YOU WITH M&G'S UNIT TRUST SAVINGS PLAN

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £25 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st July 1988 your total outlay of £4,500 would have built up to £8,598. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND GENERAL Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £26,722, an extra £18,124.

## FROM £25 A MONTH

### PERFORMANCE FIGURES TO 1 JULY 1988

Table with 4 columns: £25 A MONTH, 3 YEARS, 10 YEARS, 15 YEARS. Rows for M&G Recovery, M&G Dividend, M&G SECOND, Building Society.

All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic-rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are at revaluation values. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation Units of the Fund you choose at the price ruling on receipt of payment and net income is automatically reinvested. All the Funds are wide-range investments and are authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. Detailed information on Recovery, Dividend and SECOND General is given above. The Rules of the Plan, Scheme Particulars, and the latest annual and half-yearly reports on these funds can be obtained, free of charge, from M&G's Customer Services Department at the address below. The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan. You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty. The securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the 'offer' price and sell at the 'bid' price.

### SAVINGS PLANS FOR CHILDREN

The minimum age for the Unit Trust Savings Plan is 14, but accounts for younger children can be opened in the name of an adult and designated with the child's full name.

Form for M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Includes fields for name, address, phone, and checkboxes for Recovery, Dividend, and Second funds. Includes a 'NO EXTRA CHARGES' section and a 'BANKERS ORDER DO NOT DETACH FROM ENROLMENT FORM' section.

## How to expand the safety net

Table with 4 columns: Fund, Min Inv, Charges, Objective. Rows for Barings Select Managers, Family of Funds, Family of Income Funds.

A unit trust invests in a spread of equities to reduce risk; so why not expand the safety net approach and have a unit trust that invests in other unit trusts? Until recently, the Department of Trade and Industry forbade one company investing in the units of other groups. Now Barings Fund Managers and Henderson Unit Trust Management have been the first two groups to win DTI approval to venture into these uncharted waters. "We realized we are not going to be the best at all things at all times," said Mark Skirner, sales director for Barings. "We will not have the best performing fund in every sector, so we wanted to have the ability to tap into the best." The Barings Select Managers Fund, and two of Henderson's funds - the Family of Funds and the Family of Income Funds - attempt to do just that by seeking out the best unit trusts among the more than 1,000 UK authorized funds.

"We believe consumers will view the funds as good value for money," said Mr Chris Burrows, Henderson's deputy managing director, "especially when they are compared to a portfolio of unit trusts they have compiled themselves." Mr Burrows believes the funds are good value because not only do they spread risk, but can switch from unit trust to unit trust without paying a front-end load, and without being liable for capital gains tax, as an individual would be. The Department of Trade and Industry decided to allow such funds only if they did not double-charge customers on

# 7.75% NET

## Is your savings account giving you returns like this?

The fact is, in any ordinary account your savings aren't working as hard as they could. But take a look at the High Interest Cheque Account from Bank of Ireland and discover an interest rate that's hard to beat - currently 7.75% net - along with a unique package of benefits. All you need is £2,000 to open your account, and if you've got over £10,000 the interest rate goes up to an impressive 8% net.

Top level interest ✓ Complete security ✓ Instant access to your savings with your own cheque book ✓ Interest paid quarterly ✓

To open a High Interest Cheque Account with Bank of Ireland - or if you'd like more information - return the coupon below or call Robert Dunne on 01-329 4500. (Monday-Friday 9am-6pm).

Interest rates may vary. Three withdrawals per quarter are free and further withdrawals are charged at 50p each.

Form for High Interest Cheque Account. Includes fields for name, address, phone, and checkboxes for opening an account. Includes a 'Please send me more information' checkbox.

Premier Shares advertisement featuring Guardian Building Society. Includes text: "The Premier rate paid quarterly 8.3% NET or for maximum return interest can be compounded quarterly to earn 8.56% CAR". Also includes "NEW HIGHER RATES AUG 6" and "GUARDIAN BUILDING SOCIETY ASSETS OVER £1 BILLION".



# FAMILY MONEY

## Time to drive a car bargain

If you pass a motor dealer's forecourt this weekend, the loudest sound you hear will be the purring of the owner. The new F registration comes in on Monday, and buyers can then flourish their new number plates. Some may even do so early. One or two dealers will open at midnight on Sunday so that customers can drive away from the ball and into the darkness as the clock strikes 12.

Sales are certain to be a record, although dealers are not the only people who stand to gain. Most new buyers use hire purchase or a loan to buy a car, so banks and finance houses should do very nicely. Most big manufacturers, including Ford, Fiat, Renault and Peugeot, offer free credit and now is the time to take advantage of it. Incentives such as free credit switch on and off like faulty light bulbs, but August, with the start of the new registrations, is the usual time for free credit to appear.

The forms of borrowing can vary. If you have a personal loan, it guarantees that the car is yours immediately you buy it. No one can take it from you if you default — the creditor has to sue you for debt instead. If you default on a hire-purchase agreement, the company can take the car back, but will need to get permission from the courts if you have already paid back more than a third of your loan.

The two kinds of contract have one crucial point in common. All the details are decided at the start. You borrow a fixed sum at a fixed interest

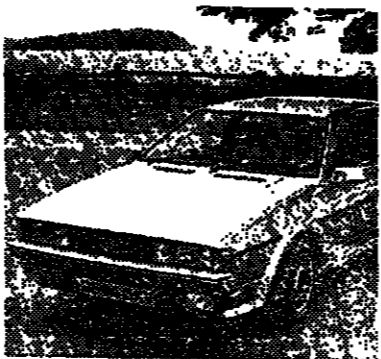
rate over a fixed time — usually two or three years, sometimes four.

Banks and finance companies are all keen to tempt you in, and special offers, competitions and prizes, all for limited periods only — the stuff of high street retailing for years — have suddenly come into banking with a whoosh. The Midland offers its borrowers discounts of 50 per cent on tyres and the chance to win a Jaguar XJ6. National Westminster provides you with free vehicle examination if you belong to the RAC, and special cheap rates (£27.50) to join if you do not, provided you take a loan. Borrow from Lloyds and there is a chance to win the weekly prize of one Escort Cabriolet.

So much for the pretty wrapping. The package inside and what you pay for the money you borrow are far more important. Every lender has to display an interest rate, labelled an APR — annual percentage rate. NatWest's loan came at an APR of 20; the Midland APR, which lasts until mid-October, comes to only 17.4. A Scotloan from the Bank of Scotland costs 17.7 APR.

If you go to a finance company directly, the figures on the same basis will work out between 20 and 23 per cent, although pinning down details on the phone is difficult. Most customers do not go to the finance companies directly, but reach them through the dealers where rates should be lower.

The various percentages have



Volkswagen Scirocco Scala: Note the registration

hardly altered in the past two months, although bank base rates have shot up from 7.5 to 10.5 per cent since June 1. Lenders know how crucial new registrations can be and will almost certainly raise rates once the spree is over.

Most dealers represent a finance company. Dealers earn a handsome commission from selling their loans, but will often sacrifice some of it to bring down rates and do more business. Alternatively, they can produce better terms for any car traded in. The demand for new cars means the market for used ones is particularly buoyant at the moment.

How can you tell what the trade-in value should be? You would manage to find *Glass's Guide* to secondhand prices, or the *CAP Guide*. Otherwise,

it is worth seeing what two or three different dealers are prepared to give you.

In the past, people have usually been far more concerned about whether they could finance the interest payments on the car from their monthly budgets than about the interest rates they have to pay. They have almost ignored it as a technicality. Today, people realize interest rates are important too.

Admittedly interest rates can sometimes sound too good to be true — and if so, first impressions may well be accurate. Dealers will often quote a "flat rate of interest", throwing in the APR almost as an after-thought.

The two are very different. Flat rates work on the assumption that you pay interest on the whole sum you borrowed, even when you have only £100 of the original £3,000 to repay. APRs allow for the gradual fall in your debt as you repay it.

It is hardly surprising that flat rates sound better than they are. The rule of thumb for translating them into APRs is to double them, and take away one. The true APR will appear in large letters on your agreement anyway.

Credit insurance can push up the costs, but can still make a lot of sense. It will pay off the loan automatically if you die, or are hit by some long-term illness, and you can even add on cover against the risk of redundancy. People actually buy secondhand cars in August, but rarely get free credit on them.

Tom Tickell

## TOO SOON? TOO LATE?

### Mercury can solve the problem of when to invest in unit trusts

In today's markets, timing your investment is a serious problem. The Mercury Capital Investment Plan can solve the problem by transferring your money progressively from a building society account into unit trusts over two years. Meanwhile it earns good interest, which goes to increase the total amount invested. The minimum investment is £1,000.

Mercury Fund Managers Ltd. is part of one of the UK's largest fund management groups and has a reputation for consistent long-term performance.

For full details of the Plan please return the coupon below, or telephone Kenneth Brown on 01-280 2860.

To: Mercury Fund Managers Ltd. FREEPOST, London EC4B 4DQ.  
(Member of the Unit Trust Association, IMRO and LAUTRO)  
Please send me details of the Mercury Capital Investment Plan.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Title) \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
MERCURY  
NO SALESMAN WILL CALL. MERCURY FUND MANAGERS

### BRIEFING

#### Cheap loans to cost more

■ Cheap loans provided by an employer will be a little less cheap now that the official rate of interest has been raised from 9.5 to 12 per cent. Directors and those earning £8,500 a year or more (the so-called higher-paid) pay tax on the difference between the actual and official rates. The interest levied on unpaid tax is also being raised, from 7.75 to 8.75 per cent. The Inland Revenue will also pay the same rate on repayments. The new rates apply from August 6 whether or not interest has already started to accrue.

#### Yorshire expands

■ The Yorkshire Building Society plans to take a stake in a quoted firm of stockbrokers, BWD Securities. The society is to open YBS Financial Advice Centres. These customers will find a dealing service, traditional stockbroking and portfolio management. The first will open in Castleford later this year; others will open first in Yorkshire, then nationwide. BWD charges 1.5 per cent with a minimum of £17.50, but the minimum through the

advice centres will be £20. Those with a minimum of £5,000 will be offered portfolio management using unit trusts.

#### Unit trust rules

The latest guidelines for new-style unit trusts investing in property or futures and options were published by the Department of Trade & Industry this week. Traditional unit trust managers are not clamouring to be allowed to invade these hitherto-banned areas of investment. But merchant banks that already run offshore property funds and groups that want a property option for a unit trust-based pension may be keen to launch property funds. Existing futures and options dealers may want to launch unit trusts in their field, but existing unit trust managers are frightened by the risky nature of this sort of investment. Indeed, the Unit Trust Association hopes that the Securities and Investment Board will not allow these new-style funds to be marketed under the name "unit trusts". A third type of new trusts, mixed funds which have to invest in at least three of four categories — securities, money markets, futures and options and property — is also envisaged.

## FRIENDLY SOCIETIES

Financial journalists often recommend Friendly Societies as ideal for savers. Their unique tax exempt status means that savers earn more. Homeowners, the leading Friendly Society, invests over £210 million on behalf of 220,000 savers. The HFS Portfolio High Growth Savings Plan offers you exciting opportunities of TAX-FREE savings and higher returns, starting from just £8 a month. Or if you've £1,000 or more to invest, you can enjoy security, high growth prospects, tax advantages, regular income and easy access to your capital, with the HFS Dual Growth Bond.

For both investments, half your money goes into Gilts, bonds or high interest building society accounts. The other half is invested by a leading City Stockbroker, in the UK and overseas stock markets. Giving you the perfect balance of security and high growth prospects.

For full details post this coupon today to: Homeowners Friendly Society, FREEPOST, Harringate, N. Yorkshire HG1 5BR. High Growth Savings Plan. Investments of \$1000 upwards.

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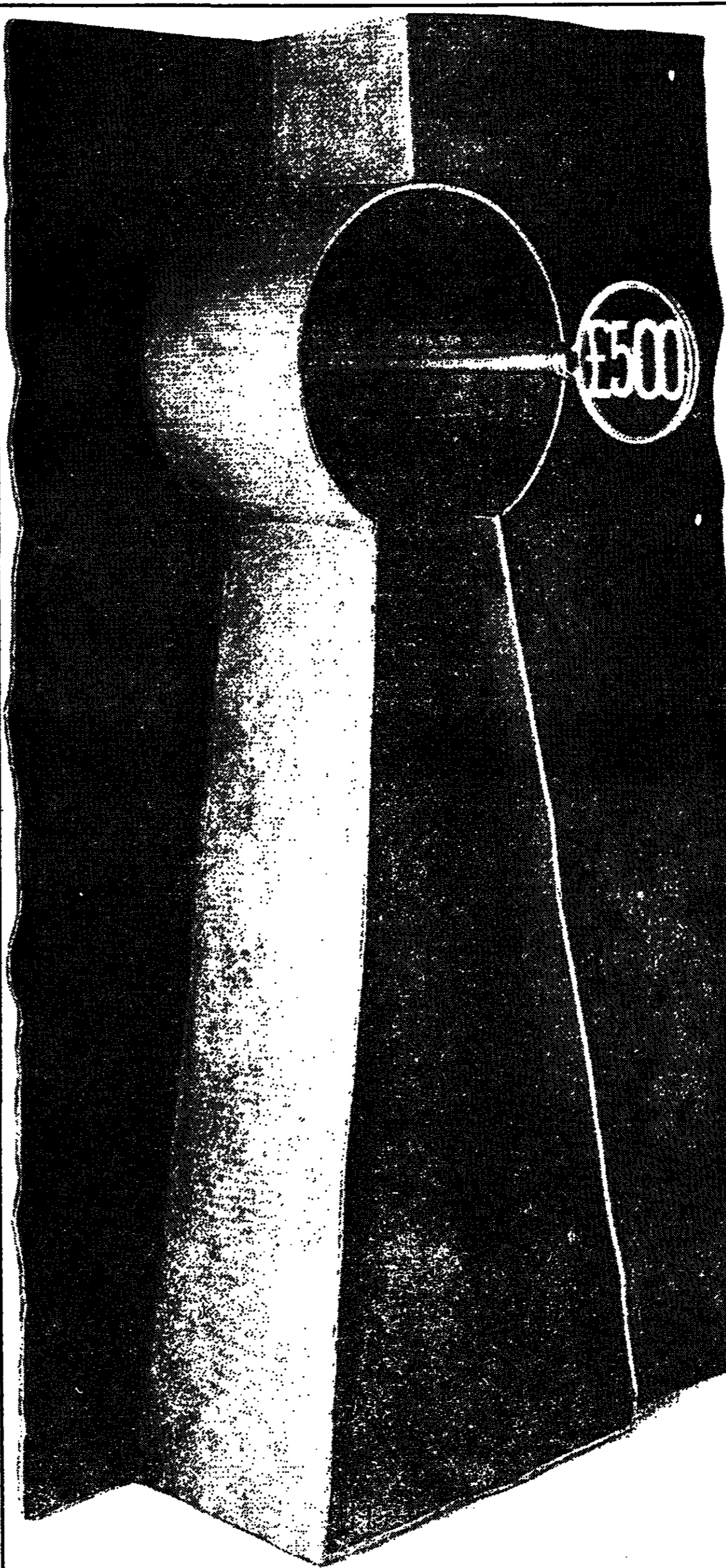
HFS HOMEOWNERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

### MARKS & SPENCER BUDGET ACCOUNTS INTEREST RATE CHANGE

THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON THE OUTSTANDING BALANCES ON MARKS & SPENCER BUDGET ACCOUNTS WILL BE 2.5% PER MONTH (EQUVALENT TO 34.4% APR) FOR ALL METHODS OF PAYMENT. THE INTEREST PAID ON A CREDIT BALANCE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED. THE VARIATION WILL BE REFLECTED IN STATEMENTS PRODUCED ON OR AFTER 5TH AUGUST 1988.

THIS NOTIFICATION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 11 OF THE CONDITIONS OF USE FOR MARKS & SPENCER BUDGET ACCOUNTS.

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FAMILY MONEY

Cover risks when school's at play

Last week's High Court judgment clearing a school of blame in a rugby accident highlights the need for parents to insure their offspring.



Sporting exuberance: Insurance is available against accidents

Four to five years ago several insurance companies noticed there was no ready-made policy covering children who suffered permanent disability through an accident at school.

Holmwoods, a Brown Shipley subsidiary, has devised a personal accident policy for schoolchildren. Already it covers a quarter of a million pupils. The cost - £3 a pupil a term - is arranged through schools and provides £200,000 if the child is totally paralysed and reduced benefits for victims of lesser accidents.

As an extension to this policy, BUPA has arranged for the cost of a private specialist and hospital treatment for a child, again through Holmwoods. Since delays in seeing a specialist can impair schooling, the policy allows for prompt medical attention.

For £19 a term, payable through the school, a high level of specialist's fees and hospital charges is covered. The cover is extended for holidays and with the same benefits even if abroad. After leaving school, children may apply for a 40 per cent discount until they are 25 years old and thereafter receive a 10 per cent reduction.

Solicitor can tell the client

Vivien Goldsmith's item, "The clients who ought to be told" (Family Money, July 23), states correctly that under present Law Society rules a solicitor who enters a commission-sharing agreement may not be legally obliged to declare to the client that some commission has been retained by the broker.

WALTER MERRICKS, Assistant Secretary General, Communications, The Law Society, Chancery Lane, London

Elderly are 'ignored'

Your article "Retiring with health cover" (Family Money, July 9) confirms my experience of the limitations in the private health insurance scheme, especially for those longstanding subscribers who have reached old age.

Disabled ID

The article on the orange badge scheme (Family Money, July 16) reminded me of a close friend in California who is disabled and needs suitable identification for the car being used.

Hidden cost

Save and Prosper's costs (Family Money, July 23) do compare favourably with other credit cards, but what is not mentioned is that cash withdrawals are prohibitively expensive and cost far more than any other credit card.

Tax secrets

That part of the Labour Party's proposal for local taxation which is based on the capital value of property is defective in exactly the same respect as is the current rateable value.

PHILIP BURTON, Lotherton-cum-Aberford, Nr Leeds, West Yorkshire

ROBERT HOLL ALLEN, Solihull, West Midlands

Mrs R.A. GOODMAN, Lawns Court, The Avenue, Wembley Park, London

H. FLETCHER, Dunedin Drive, East Kilbride, Glasgow

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

Table with columns for stock symbols and price changes. Includes entries like 1 +7 +1 +3 +5 +4, 2 +9 +4 +5 +4 +4, etc.

ALL BOX NO. REPLY SHOULD BE SENT TO: BOX NO. 1, P.O. BOX 200, WINDMILL STREET, WAPPING, LONDON, E1 9DB.

Advertisement for Globe Investment Trust PLC. Headline: "When is the verb 'to invest' synonymous with the verb 'to save'?" Text describes investment benefits and includes contact information for Globe Management Limited.

Advertisement for Nationwide Anglia Building Society. Text: "Placing of £20,000,000 11 1/8 per cent Bonds due 7th August, 1989". Includes contact details for Fulton Prebon Sterling Ltd. and Rowe & Pitsan Ltd.

Advertisement for independent financial advisers. Large text: "FOR A LIST OF INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS IN YOUR AREA, PHONE 01-200 3000." Includes logo for Independent Financial Advisers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Then Peter and Silver and paid...
BERTHS
RESERVATIONS - On July 14th...

ANNOUNCEMENTS
YOU'RE SINGLE AND SUCCESSFUL
Because of my true professional...

FOR SALE
MICHAEL Jackson Concert...
THE PHOENIX WEDDING SALE...
THE TIMES 1988-1989...

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS
DRAWING DOWN THE MOON
The thinking person's introduction service...

FLATSHARE
RENTALS
BARRIS SWALE - Newly modernized 4 bedroom detached house...

LEGAL NOTICES
SEX DISCRIMINATION ACT 1975
WORTHINGTON SCHOOLS LEAVING NOTICE...

LEGAL NOTICES
TALENTFAME LIMITED
NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS...

LEGAL NOTICES
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985...

ANNIVERSARIES
MEMBER - Happy anniversary darling...

DEATHS
BANNER - On July 28th, peacefully at the Royal London Hospital...

FOR WOMEN OVER 60
Patron HSH The Princess Caroline of Monaco
Have you always wanted to drive in a Motor Rally?

FLATSHARE
CAMDEN Town, 4/7 for 1/1 in 1st floor...

LEGAL NOTICES
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR
OF THE COMPANY OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985...

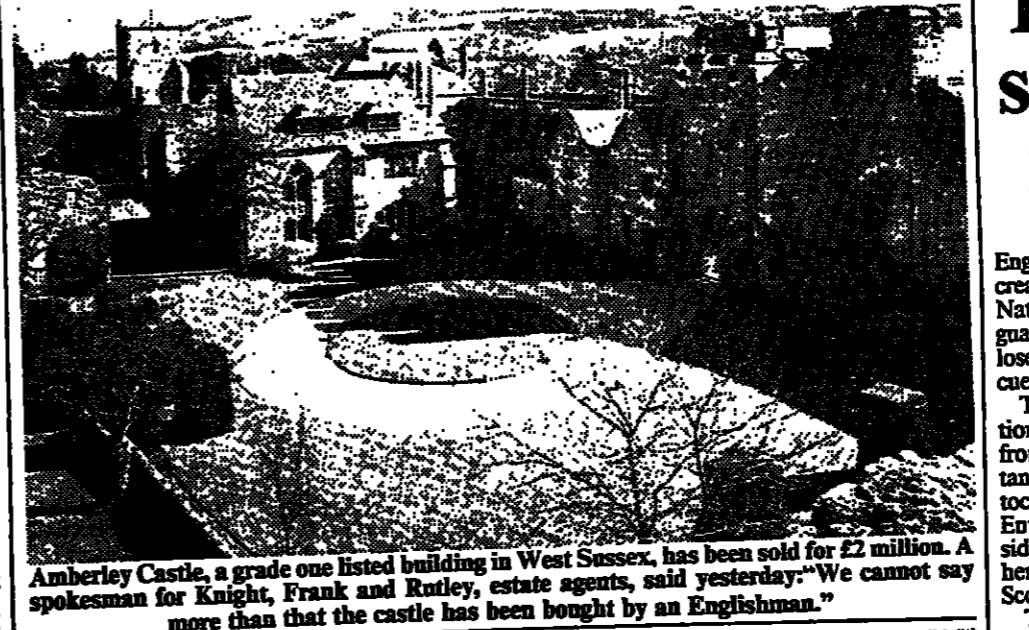
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Church services tomorrow

Ninth Sunday after Trinity
CANTLEBY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC. Rev N Taylor...
ST JOHN'S: 8.15 HC. Rev N Taylor...



Amberley Castle, a grade one listed building in West Sussex, has been sold for £2 million. A spokesman for Knight, Frank and Rutley, estate agents, said yesterday: "We cannot say more than that the castle has been bought by an Englishman."

English Heritage should lose rescue role, says report

By Simon Tait
English Heritage, the body created five years ago by the National Heritage Act to guard England's past, should lose its responsibility for rescue archaeology...

Seeing atoms in a cold light

Lasers do not spring to most people's minds as refrigerating devices...
IBM, writing in Physical Review Letters, and a group led by H. Walther at the Max Planck Institute for Quantum Optics...

Appointments
Least appointments include: General Sir Brian Kenny to be Colonel Commandant Royal Armoured Corps from August 1...

University news
Durham: Dr Graham Rodwell, Senior Lecturer in French, former Dean of the Faculty of Arts, to serve as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for three years from August 1...

Latest wills
Helen Moore Martin, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, left estate valued at £3,572,913 net. Mr James Basil William Whitmore, of Horley, Surrey, left estate valued at £2,084,000 net...

Bible scholars in Sheffield
The world's leading biblical scholars will be meeting in Sheffield next week for the 1988 International Congress of the Society of Biblical Literature...

Domestic & Catering Situations
CHALEY Persons, 2 complete chefs for private company chef in Austria. Good travel experience...

Situations Wanted
BIBLIOPHILE work wanted. Master teacher available for conversions, repairs, maintenance, routing etc. 01-435 1206...

Note of optimism at Newport eisteddfod

The Welsh clans congregate in Newport, Gwent, this weekend for a week of Welsh culture and music not witnessed in such an anglicized stronghold of the principality for 90 years...

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ENTERTAINMENTS

01-481 1920

01-481 1920

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL
PURCELL ROOM
PICKETS PAGEANT

DIRECT FROM CHINA
PEKING OPERA
TWO WEEKS ONLY - AUGUST 15 to 28

PROMS 88
Royal Albert Hall 22 July - 17 September

TONIGHT 7.30
JAMES LAU URBAN
LALU RUMBAUM
TOMORROW 7.30
ALBERT PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

EVENTS
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

EXHIBITIONS
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

OPERA & BALLET
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

THEATRES
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

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PACO PENA
Spanish Fiesta
BARBICAN

CONEDRY
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

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WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 1988

BARBICAN
10am - 8pm daily

SUMMER IN THE CITY 31 JULY-7 AUGUST

THE KING'S SINGERS

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

THE KING'S SINGERS

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

THE KING'S SINGERS

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THE KING'S SINGERS

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

THE KING'S SINGERS

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
SPANISH FIESTA

THURSDAY 11 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST at 8.00 p.m.

SUNDAY 28 AUGUST at 1.30 p.m.

TUESDAY 30 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

FRIDAY 2 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SATURDAY 3 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST at 1.30 p.m.

MONDAY 5 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

TUESDAY 6 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 7 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

THURSDAY 8 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

FRIDAY 9 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SATURDAY 10 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST at 1.30 p.m.

MONDAY 12 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

TUESDAY 13 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

THURSDAY 15 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

FRIDAY 16 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SATURDAY 17 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST at 1.30 p.m.

MONDAY 19 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

TUESDAY 20 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

THURSDAY 22 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.

ART GALLERIES

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PLAY TO PACKED HOUSES
By advertising in THE TIMES
Entertainment Pages
You will reach an audience of 3.8 million readers...







GOLF

Curry goes through wringer to meet Claydon in final

David Curry, the British Amateur champion in 1986, will meet Russell Claydon, a giant from the Gog Magog club in Cambridge...

Milligan ensures a massive turnout

Andrew Coltart, aged 18, the former Scottish boys champion from Thornhill, meets Jim Milligan, the highly popular local club champion...

Roderick seeks two titles

Neil Roderick, aged 22, the talented international from Pontardawe, and Keith Jones, aged 18, the son of the Wrexham club secretary...

POLO

Balance is the key to success

In the first semi-final of the High-Gol Five-Chukka Cowdry Park Challenge Cup at Ambersham, Sussex, yesterday, Maple Leafs beat Cowdry Park 7-5.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Visas open doors for Soviet team

Members of the Soviet Olympic team will take a key decision concerning visas with them to Seoul...

CYCLING

Alexander and Sturgess coast through

The favourites coasted home in an opening to the national track championships that produced no shocks at Leicester yesterday...

MOTOR RALLYING

McRae looks unbeatable on the tarmac

Jimmy McRae, of Scotland, stormed into a 14-second lead after only 15 miles of competition when the British Midlands Ulster Rally got under way in Northern Ireland yesterday afternoon.

long as I don't putt first. I won't mind." Curry has been through the wringer in getting this far. Having been three up with four to play in the morning...

Claydon, who took up the game only six years ago, is the age of 16, is something over six feet tall (he is vague about his height) and has a girth to match (he is deliberately cagey about that).

Neil Roderick, aged 22, the talented international from Pontardawe, and Keith Jones, aged 18, the son of the Wrexham club secretary...

CRICKET: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REACH 247 AGAINST WEST INDIANS IN MATCH INTERRUPTED BY RAIN

Tough going but Stephenson produces a sizzling display

Nottinghamshire reached 247 for the loss of seven wickets in their first innings against the West Indians in a rain-interrupted match at Trent Bridge.

CRICKET: ENGLAND'S NARROW WIN SET UP BY FAIRBROTHER

England's narrow win set up by Fairbrother

England XI, bolstered by a stylish 51 from Neil Fairbrother, defeated the Rest of the World XI by two runs yesterday in an exciting finish to the second of the festival matches at Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne.

CRICKET: DORSET LED TO A MINOR TRIUMPH BY CLERGYMAN

Dorset led to a minor triumph by clergyman

Dorset's victory over Cambridgeshire in the final of the Minor Counties one day trophy last weekend, a collective triumph for an unflashy county, unused to reaching such lofty heights, was also another milestone in a year of personal achievement for the Reverend Andrew Wingfield-Digby, their clergyman captain.

CRICKET: CAPTAINCY OF ENGLAND A CRUCIAL FACTOR

The first women's county championship to be played on a tournament basis will begin today in Cambridge, with 10 teams taking part.

SWIMMING: BOYD GOES FOR BROKE AS HE TAKES LARGE STRIDES TOWARDS OLYMPIC SELECTION

A giant rivals can look up to

Anyone who chooses to swim the 1,500 metres freestyle deserves to be looked up to, and at 6ft 8 1/2 in tall, Kevin Boyd never fails to incline their necks to the required angle.

It is the equivalent of the 10,000 metres on the track, with all-out speed rarely needed, but requiring absolute concentration and a determined temperament, the ability "just to keep pushing on even when it's been hurting as early as after the first 300", as Boyd, aged 22, the British record-holder, describes it.

When fully stretched, Boyd's long frame is eminently suited to the longest event in the Olympic pool, abbreviating the 30-length haul at each end with a languid tumble turn. In what is only his second serious season at the distance, Boyd, in rivalry with Tony Day, has taken the British record into international respectability.

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Long-shot: Boyd's massive frame is well suited to 1,500m freestyle (Photograph: John Jones)

"Realizing the sacrifices I had already made, there was no point in just giving up. Anyway, I'm not the sort of person that gives up easily."

Apparently not, for Boyd was soon back in the competition pool, turning out world-ranked performances which gave the grant assessors no alternative but to reinstate at least half the original grant for the final six months towards Seoul.

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Personal best for inspired Parrack

There is a story that 12 months ago, a young man called Jim Parrack walked into the Leeds international pool and said "I want to go to the Olympics." The tale may be apocryphal, but yesterday evening, Parrack walked away from the pool a national champion on his way to the Games.

Being staged in Leeds, the TSB national championships were to be the Admiral Moorhouse benefit swims, but was truly upset by Parrack, his friend and clubmate, in a thrilling final that brought the packed gallery to its feet.

Moorhouse, who is pre-selected for Seoul, led to the turn from his Dutch challenger, Ron Dekker, with the pre-race second favourite, Nick Gillingham, in touch.

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EQUESTRIANISM: INJURY TO SHORTLISTED EVEREST LISNAMARROW COULD MAKE SELECTORS REGRET DELAY IN NAMING OLYMPIC TEAM

Lisnamarrow falls victim to pitfalls of Hickstead

Janet Hunter's inclusion in the Olympic show-jumping team, for which she is a leading contender, is in jeopardy after her horse, Everest Lisnamarrow, appeared to strike into himself while competing in the Silk Cup Derby trial at Hickstead yesterday.

Another Olympic shortlisted rider, was underlining his present form with a second successive win in the competition. It came on his Olympic reserve horse, County Classic Vital, one of only three horses out of the 53 starters to go clear.

Sending riders on the right course

By Louise Taylor
By taking the innovative step of establishing the All England jumping course at his Hickstead home in 1959, Douglas Bunn has provided a succession of British riders, from Pat Smythe to Henry Smith, with a springboard to sustained international success.



The great provider: Douglas Bunn and his All England jumping course at Hickstead (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance)

inspiring Derby Bank, Bunn hit upon a means of capturing the public's imagination by such an extent that the Derby is now an integral feature of the British sporting calendar.

Despite having celebrated his sixtieth birthday in February, he remains joint-master of the Mid-Surrey drag hunt and displays few indications of slowing down.

money into Hickstead. "It's not a wise investment, it's been very frightening, for every pound I've had from sponsors I've put in 10 of my own."

It is this wholehearted, vigorous approach to life that has permitted Bunn to invest "many millions" of his own money into Hickstead.

SPORTS POLITICS

The Duke criticized over letter

By John Goodbody
The Duke of Edinburgh was yesterday criticized by Sir Neil MacFarlane, a former Conservative Minister for Sport, for endorsing a manifesto to selected MPs by the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR).

BOXING

Watson has to settle for draw after heads clash

Michael Watson, the British middleweight prospect, was left feeling upset and frustrated yesterday after his technical draw ended in a technical draw after a clash of heads.

BOXING

Nunn ends Tate's reign as champion

Las Vegas (Agencies) — Michael Nunn, of the United States, took the International Boxing Federation (IBF) world middleweight title yesterday after he defeated Frank Tate, a fellow-American, in the ninth round.

YACHTING

European title for Anderson

From a Correspondent
Ostend
Benny Anderson, of Denmark, had taken the lead at the start of the 1988 European Cup regatta in Ostend.

YACHTING

Progress at last in America's Cup

By Barry Pickthall
As Peter de Savary continued with plans to fly his continued challenge to the America's Cup, the San Diego defenders have finally met their New Zealand rivals to hammer out the details and date for the cup challenge in September.

YACHTING

Offshore racing takes on inshore perspective

By Malcolm McKee
An experimental system was used to set the course for the RORC Channel race, the opening race of Cowes week, which started last night.

YACHTING

Neill breaks new ground

Charlotte Neill, aged 17, crewed by Ryan Lee, from Exe Sailing Club, has won the NatWest open championship for international cadet class dinghies at Bournemouth on Croach, to become the first British woman winner in the history of the event (a Special Correspondent writes).

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

Portsmouth back in trouble

Portsmouth and West Bromwich Albion last night pleaded for leniency at a Football Association disciplinary hearing after both clubs were summoned to Lancaster Gate to explain their poor records of last season.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

Claesen on the way back home

Tottenham Hotspur hope to recon some of their close-knit squad in the near future on Paul Gascoigne and Paul Stewart this weekend by selling Nic Claesen to Antwerp for £250,000.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

Real Sociedad pull out of Linfield game

Roy Coyle, manager of Linfield, was disappointed yesterday when the news broke that next Saturday's friendly at Windsor Park against Real Sociedad is off (George Aze writes).

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

Sansom urges clubs to move for him swiftly

Kenny Sansom, the Arsenal and England full back, yesterday urged any clubs interested in him to hasten any approach they might be prepared to make.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

McDonalds prove uncatchable

Neal and Duncan McDonald, already the winners of the Prince of Wales week, demonstrated their dominance of the International 1.4 Class in Poola yesterday by winning the Prince of Wales Cup race, which is itself the national championship of the class.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL: St Louis Cardinals 10, New York Yankees 5; Boston Red Sox 10, Los Angeles Dodgers 4; Chicago White Sox 10, Detroit Tigers 7.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

GOLF

BOB MADDOGG (R) beat Tommy Spence (L) in the 18th hole to win the 1988 British Open at Royal Troon, 18-17.

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GOLF

BOB MADDOGG (R) beat Tommy Spence (L) in the 18th hole to win the 1988 British Open at Royal Troon, 18-17.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

Sansom urges clubs to move for him swiftly

Kenny Sansom, the Arsenal and England full back, yesterday urged any clubs interested in him to hasten any approach they might be prepared to make.

FOOTBALL: VENABLES CONTINUES TO SHUFFLE THE TOTTENHAM PACK

McDonalds prove uncatchable

Neal and Duncan McDonald, already the winners of the Prince of Wales week, demonstrated their dominance of the International 1.4 Class in Poola yesterday by winning the Prince of Wales Cup race, which is itself the national championship of the class.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Union man signs for Hull KR

David Bishop, the controversial Pontypool scrum half, signed for Hull Kingston Rovers and a club record deal.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Offshore racing takes on inshore perspective

By Malcolm McKee
An experimental system was used to set the course for the RORC Channel race, the opening race of Cowes week, which started last night.

TENNIS

Durie out ruffled by Werdel

Jo Durie, a day past her 28th birthday, reached the quarter-finals of the Northern California Open with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Marianne Werdel.

FOOTBALL

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL: St Louis Cardinals 10, New York Yankees 5; Boston Red Sox 10, Los Angeles Dodgers 4; Chicago White Sox 10, Detroit Tigers 7.

FOOTBALL

CLUB FOOTBALL: Arsenal 2, Coventry 0; Chelsea 2, Tottenham 2; Liverpool 2, Manchester United 2.

